



EDINBURGH.

THE situation which the city of EDINBURGH and its suburbs, now fill, once exhibited nothing but bare rocks, marshes, some petty streams, a lake, and an irregularly scattered forest. The rock on which the *Castle* now stands, was first occupied, as a strong-hold, by the *Anglo-Saxons* of *Northumberland*, the progenitors of the *Lowland Scots*, in the sixth or seventh century. Its name of EDINBURGH, or *Edwin's castle**, is probably derived from *Edwin*, one of the most illustrious of the *Northumbrian* sovereigns. Upon the decline of the *Northumbrian* monarchy, the rock and fortress of EDINBURGH fell into the possession of the *Picts*. The *Scots* became masters of it, by their final conquest of the *Pictish* dominions. The fortifications of the *Castle*, were not considerable, until after the introduction of the *Norman* architecture into SCOTLAND, in the reign of *Malcolm Canmore*.

Inhabitants were gradually drawn from the circumjacent country, to fix their dwellings together, under the protection of this *Castle*. In the year 1128, *David the First* founded the Abbey of the *Holy Rood*. The *Castle*; the vicinity of this Religious House; and the establishment of an incorporation of immediate tenants of the Crown, in this place, with the immunities, privileges and jurisdiction of a *Royal Burgh*; concurred to augment the buildings and the population of EDINBURGH, so successfully; that, by the time of the accession of the *First James*, it had become perhaps the most considerable town in SCOTLAND.

When *Mary* the unfortunate daughter and heiress of *James the Fifth*, arrived from *France*; she found EDINBURGH to be the largest, the wealthiest, the most populous town in her kingdom, and for a time, fixed her residence at *Holyrood-house*, in preference to her other Palaces or Castles. The buildings of this town, then extended along the height,
and

* *Burgh* in the old Saxon language signifies *Castle*.

and on both sides of the ridge which runs, longitudinally, between the *Castle* and the *Abbey*. Collegiate and conventual churches, chapels, and convents, were the most remarkable, ornamental buildings, within its walls, or in its immediate vicinity. Its citizens, in order to make room for the habitation of their increasing numbers, within the walls, began to crowd their houses together, in narrow lanes, and to raise them to an immoderate, and very incommodious height.

The events of the *Reformation* were highly favourable to the peasantry and burgesses. EDINBURGH, and the other towns and cities of *Scotland*, in general, appear to have gained by it, an accession of wealth, and of inhabitants. Through the boisterous days of *Mary's* reign, and during the feeble and fickle government of her son and successor, who was born in its *Castle*; EDINBURGH continued to extend its limits, to multiply its inhabitants, and to increase its opulence. After the accession of *James* to the English throne; and through the unhappy period which ensued; divided as it was between the groaning miseries of oppression, the blustering tumults of sedition, and the furies of rebellion; till the expulsion of the last of the *Jameses*, in the year 1688; the prosperity of SCOTLAND appears to have languished and declined; its fields were laid waste or forsaken; mourning went about the streets of its towns; its *Capital city* was not remarkably enlarged or beautified; except by the construction of a palace at *Holy-rood*, which had its origin in the taste of *Charles the First*; and of a sumptuous *Hospital*, founded by the munificence of *George Heriot*: both edifices, designed by *Inigo Jones*; that illustrious architect, whose works present a venerable intermixture of the *Gothic* with the *Grecian* style of building.

Between the *REVOLUTION* and the *UNION*, the genius, the industry, the patriotism of the *SCOTTISH* nation, were actively awake. New manufactures were tried; new channels of trade were opened; the wounds made by civil dissension, began to be healed up: those energies were now vigorously unfolded, which had been lately constrained under the yoke and fetters of oppression. EDINBURGH was considerably beautified and enlarged, during this period. Many new houses were built in the *Canon-gate*, on the *Castle-hill*, and on both sides of the town. The arrangement of the buildings, began to be more carefully regulated. The rooms were made more spacious than before. More durable materials were employed.

Upon the *UNION*, EDINBURGH ceased to be the seat of the supreme government of SCOTLAND. The nobility and gentry were naturally allured away to LONDON. For a while, the prosperity of the *SCOTTISH Capital* was thus severely checked,

checked. It was not, till towards the middle of the present century, that the improvement of industry, and the increase of wealth and population, throughout NORTH BRITAIN, concurred, to enlarge, enrich, and adorn its capital city. The business before the Courts of Law in EDINBURGH, was by that time greatly increased: The fame of the *University* began to attract many more students, than had formerly attended it; The establishment of *Banking-Houses*, and various other events, contributed to excite a brisker and more enterprising spirit of trade; and served, at the same time, as sure indications, that the trade of this city, and the circumjacent country, had already made no inconsiderable advancement.

About the time of the accession of his present Majesty to the British Throne, the plan of enlarging the SCOTTISH capital, with suburbs, on its *South*, and on its *North* side, more extensive and magnificent, than the original town itself; was happily formed. *Brown's Square*, *Argyle Square*, *Nicolson's street*, *Bristol street*, *George's Square*, were built on fields, or areas, on the South side of the city. On the *North* side, the famous *North Loch* was drained; a magnificent bridge was built across its basin, to afford access to the fields lying beyond: On these fields, a NEW TOWN was begun upon an elegant and well-arranged plan.

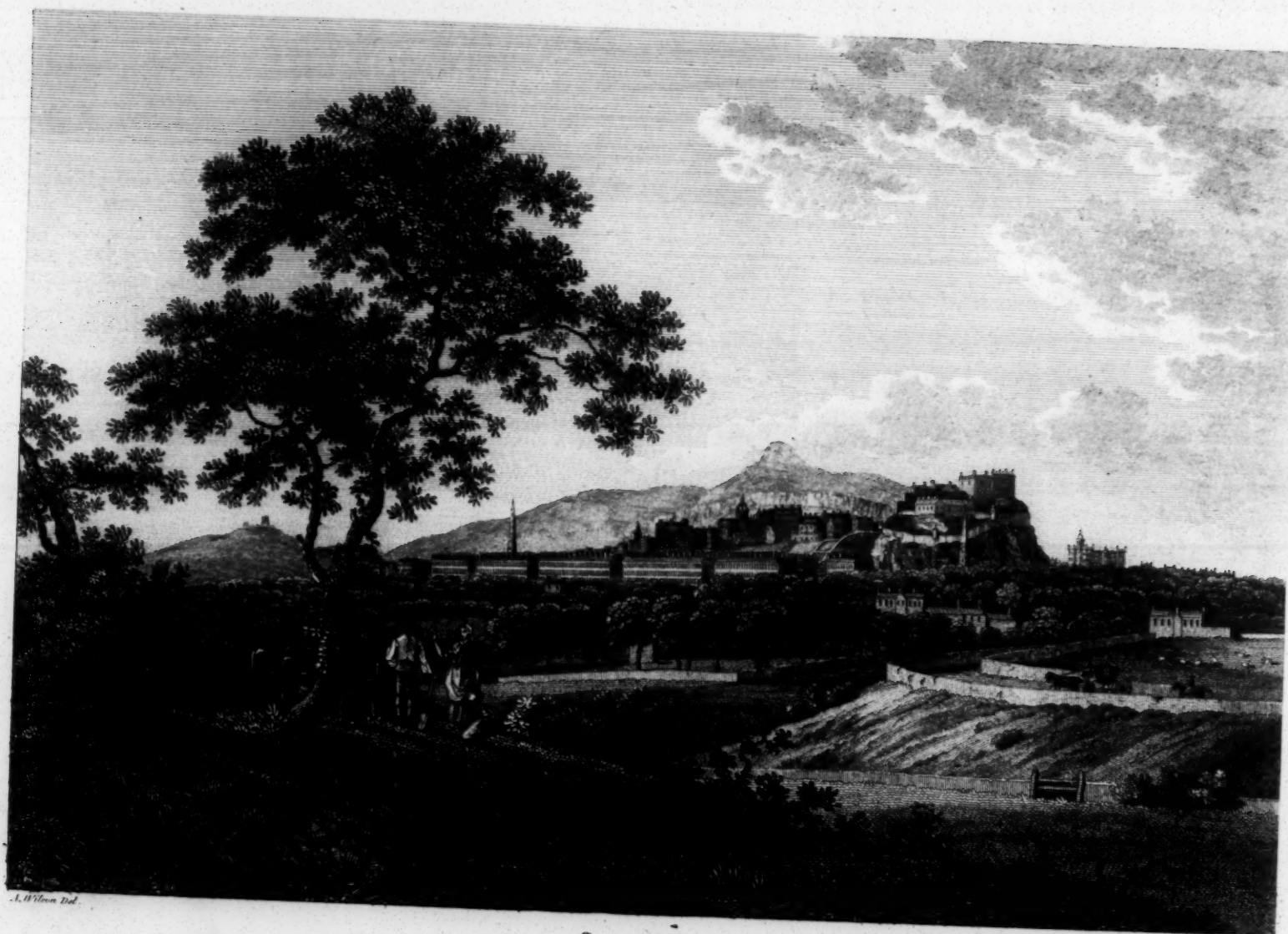
In the period which has succeeded, the plan of the NEW TOWN has been nearly completed; the buildings, on that side, have been irregularly extended towards *Leith*; another bridge has been constructed—over the *Cowgate*; the suburbs on the South side, have also been greatly enlarged; several splendid public edifices have been erected; the lanes and streets of the OLD TOWN, have been widened, and made more elegant, and commodious; the buildings have been rebuilt or repaired; a happier œconomy of the police, has been established.

At last, the MAGISTRATES of EDINBURGH, sensible to the glory of being the patrons of the most distinguished UNIVERSITY in *Europe*; and ashamed of the meanness of the edifices of this illustrious seat of Learning; determined to rebuild the houses of the UNIVERSITY, on a plan not unworthy of its fame, as a school of Science. To aid the city-funds, in supplying the expences of this noble undertaking; there was a SUBSCRIPTION opened. The Teachers in the UNIVERSITY; men eminent in public and private life, who respected it, as their *Alma Mater*; the inhabitants of the city; and the friends of Taste and Science, in all quarters of the *British* dominions; have contributed munificently towards the erection of this new palace of the Muses. But, the contributions, and the other funds destined to this use, are still far from being fully adequate to the completion of the plan. It may be hoped, that, when the wounds of our Trade, Industry,

dustry, and Civil Union, shall have been healed, by the restoration of Peace to the *British Empire*, and to *Europe*; the enthusiasm of our countrymen for whatever is related by any pleasing ties of association, to the interests of Taste and Science, or to the glory of their Country; will not suffer them long to leave the new buildings of this UNIVERSITY in their present, half-finished state.

The City of EDINBURGH, in its present condition; for the spaciousness of its streets; the elegance of its houses; the decency, cleanliness, and vigilance of its police; the abundance of its markets; the wealth, industry, knowledge, taste, virtues, and elegant manners of its inhabitants; is one of the first of the great towns of Europe. Its population is estimated at, between eighty and an hundred, thousand souls. Its circumference may be about seven miles. It spreads over three low-lying hills; and is surrounded on almost all sides, by insulated and precipitous mounts. Villas, gardens, and rich fields, beautifully laid out, and well cultivated, lie around it, for some miles, on all hands. The Frith of *Forth* opens nobly in view, before it, to the East. On the other quarters, it enjoys a variety of beautiful and extensive prospects; although, being so near to the sea, it be necessarily lower than the adjacent, interior country. Its lofty houses, spires, and cliffs, and the inequalities of the ground which it covers; render it, from all sides, a most interesting, and strikingly picturesque object of view.

This VIEW is taken from an eminence at *Craig Leith Quarry*, about two miles, North-west from EDINBURGH.



A. Wilson Del.

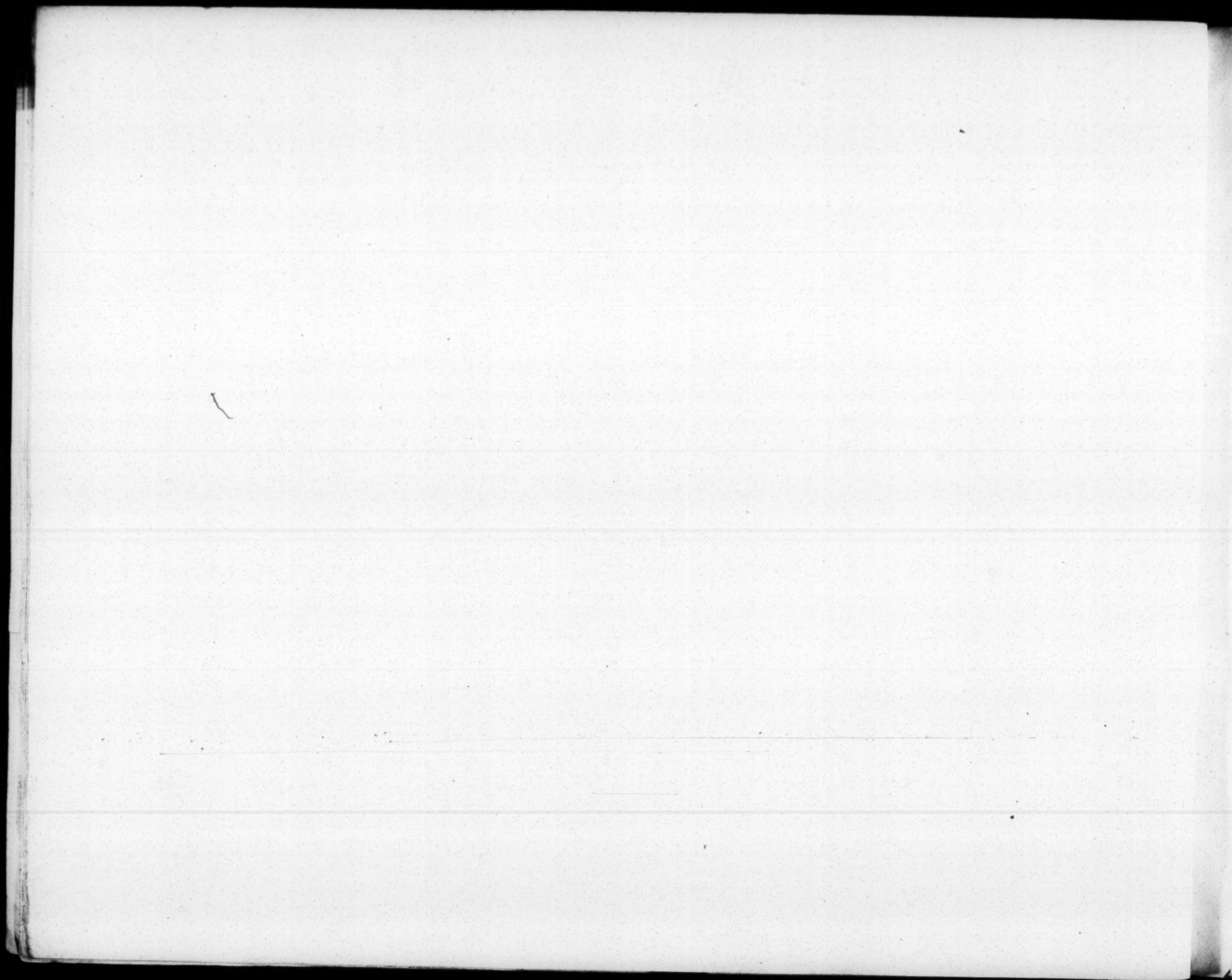
R. Scott Scul.

A VIEW OF EDINBURGH, FROM THE NORTH WEST.
most respectfully dedicated
 LORD PROVOST OF THE CITY,
to Sir James Stirling Bart



by J. G. P. Publisher.

Published as the Act directs by W. Murray & Co. Edinburgh March 1840.



DALKEITH-HOUSE,

THE Seat of his Grace, the DUKE OF BUCCLEUGH; stands at the distance of about six miles, between the South and South-East, from Edinburgh; on the southern bank of the river North Esk; and contiguous to the Burgh of Dalkeith.

At a very ancient period, in the history of Scotland; there was a Castle at Dalkeith, belonging to the Douglasses. The Earl of Morton; the last of the Regents who governed Scotland from the time of the deposition and imprisonment of Queen Mary, to the period, at which her son, James, took the reins of government into his own hands; used to reside chiefly in the Castle of Dalkeith, during his Regency. It was the residence, also, of his descendant, that Earl of Morton, who, for a time, acted a part in the administration of Scottish affairs, during the reign of Charles the Second. In this reign, it became the property of the Noble Family of Scot, (Dukes of Buccleugh.)

The present edifice; represented in the View; was built by this Family; and is not more ancient, than the latter half of the last century. It is an handsome structure, consisting of a main house and two wings. The sculptured ornaments of the Front are Corinthian.

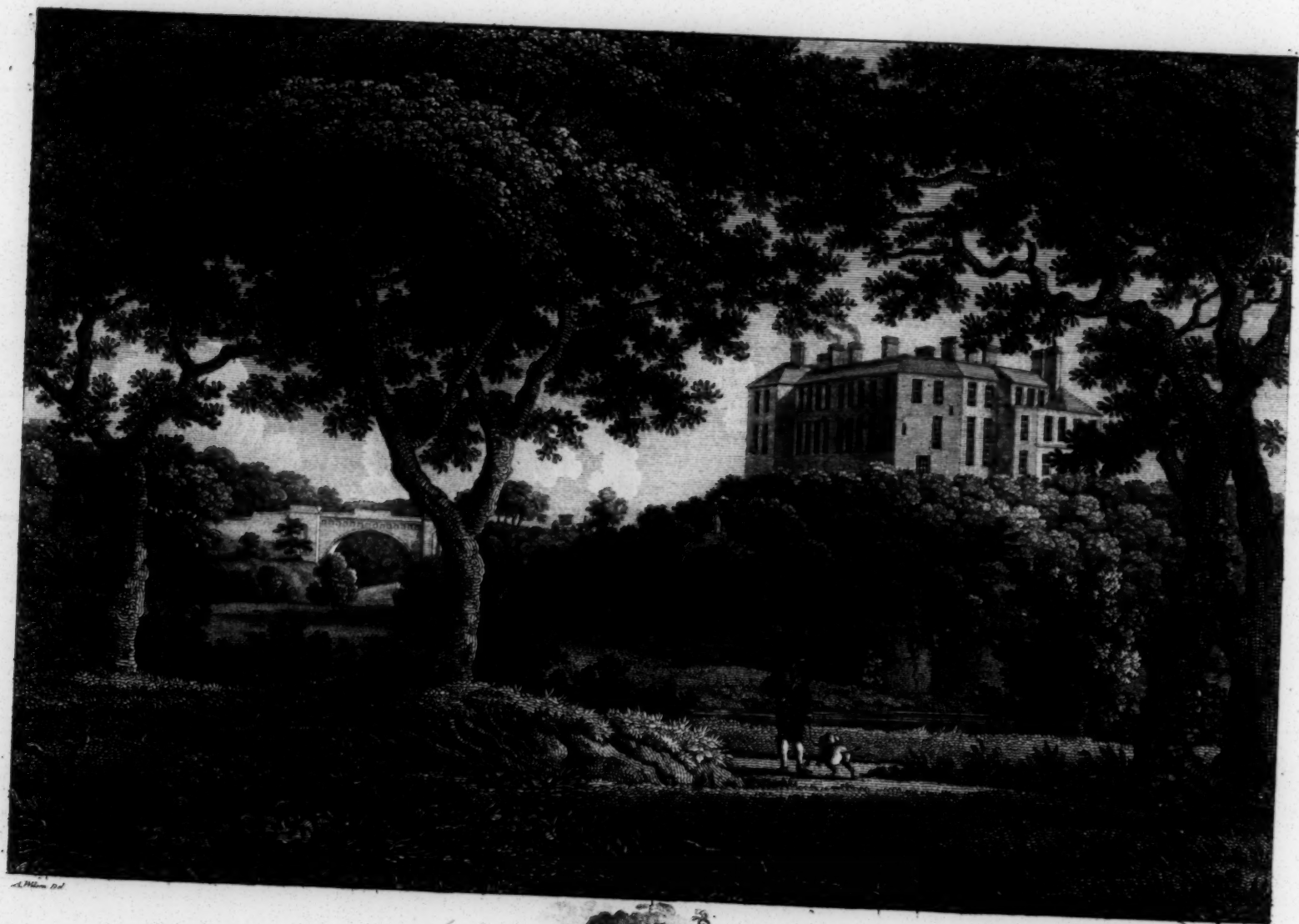
The hall, and the several *suites* of rooms within, are spacious, well-proportioned, elegantly finished, and richly furnished. One set of apartments, still exhibits the furniture and finishing which were fashionable in the last Age. This furniture has been carefully preserved; because it was the present of Charles the Second, to his son, James Duke of Monmouth, and his daughter-in-law, Anne, Duchess and Heiress of Buccleugh, married to the Duke of Monmouth. In the *Library*, is a suitable, and not ill-chosen; yet not a very large, or curious, collection of books. The chief ornaments of all the principal apartments, are PAINTINGS; *history-pieces* representing some interesting scenes of our domestic transac-

tions;

tions; *portraits* of some of the Noble, the Beautiful, the Wise, and the Brave, in the present, and in the two last centuries,—of the present representatives of the Family of Buccleugh,—and of a number of their ancestors; *Landscapes*, the works of the most distinguished artists, exhibiting British scenery, or that of foreign countries; *fruit*, and *flower* pieces, in which the delicacy, and rich beauty of nature, are imitated with wonderful felicity. With these, appear some other precious curiosities of Nature and Art; more remarkable, however, for costliness and rarity, than for their numbers, or probable utility in Science.

The situation of DALKEITH-HOUSE, is low, yet, commands a considerable extent of rich, and agreeably varied prospects, on almost all hands. An extensive park; in which knoll, and vale,—lawn, and forest,—stately trees, underwoods, and wild shrubbery, are intermingled in pleasing diversity; opens between the town of Dalkeith;—near to which the Palace stands;—and Inveresk, with the fields adjacent to the Frith of Forth, on the South and South East. The Esk, meandering beautifully from the West, amidst woods, meads, and cultivated fields; almost encroaching, in its progress, on the site of the town of Dalkeith; passing immediately under the windows of the Palace; and crowned, at a small distance below, with a newly erected bridge, remarkable for massy strength; contributes much to give animation, grace, and dignity to these scenes. The Town near; yet not encroaching too closely upon, the immediate environs of the Castle; is likewise an interesting object. On the South side, extends a rising, cultivated, and finely diversified country.

In the present view, DALKEITH-HOUSE is supposed to be seen across the Esk, through the trees which skirt the northern bank of the river, and spread out, towards the North West.



DALKEITH

HOUSE.

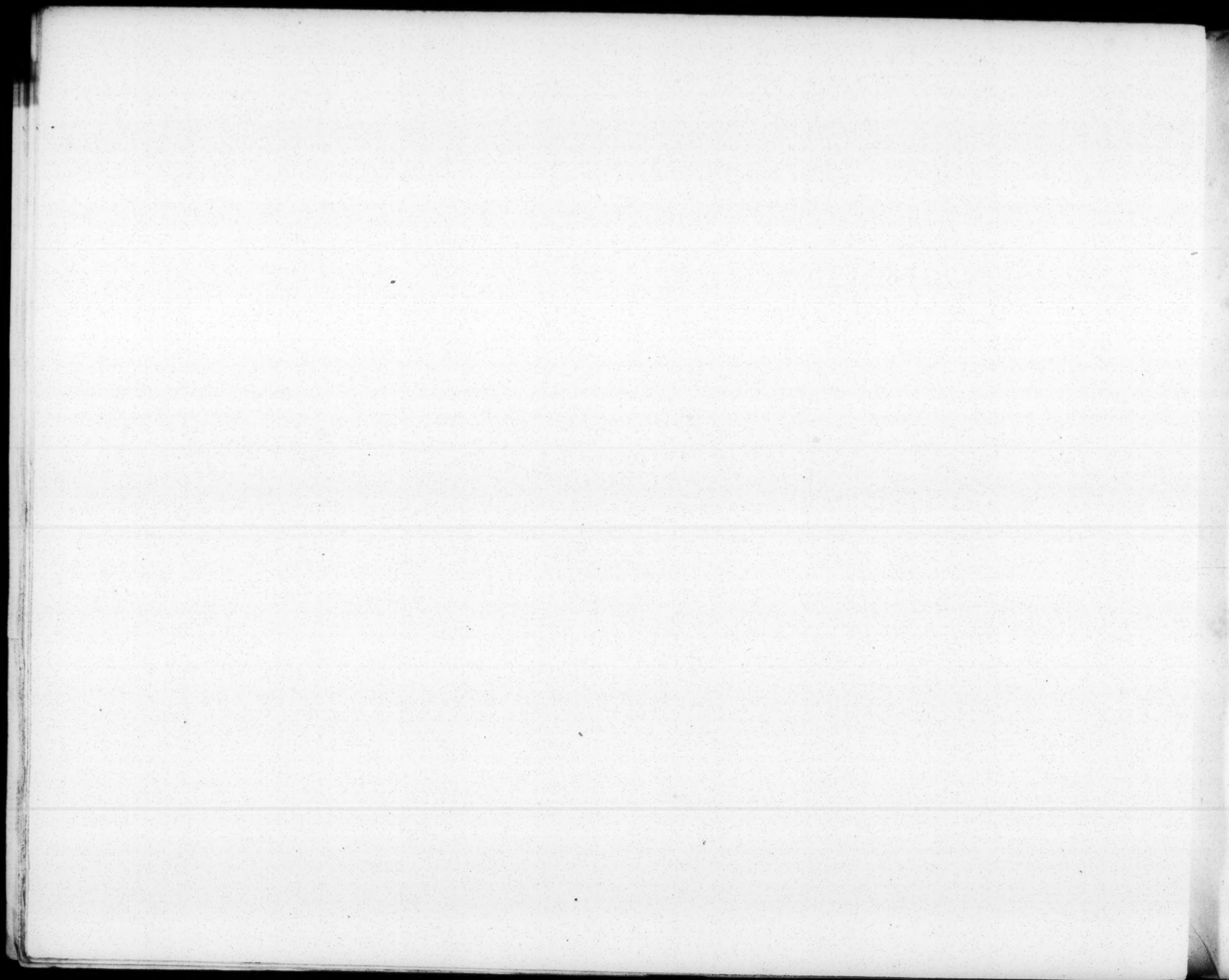
the Seat of his Grace



the Duke of Buccleugh.

to whom this plate is respectfully Dedicated by the Printers.

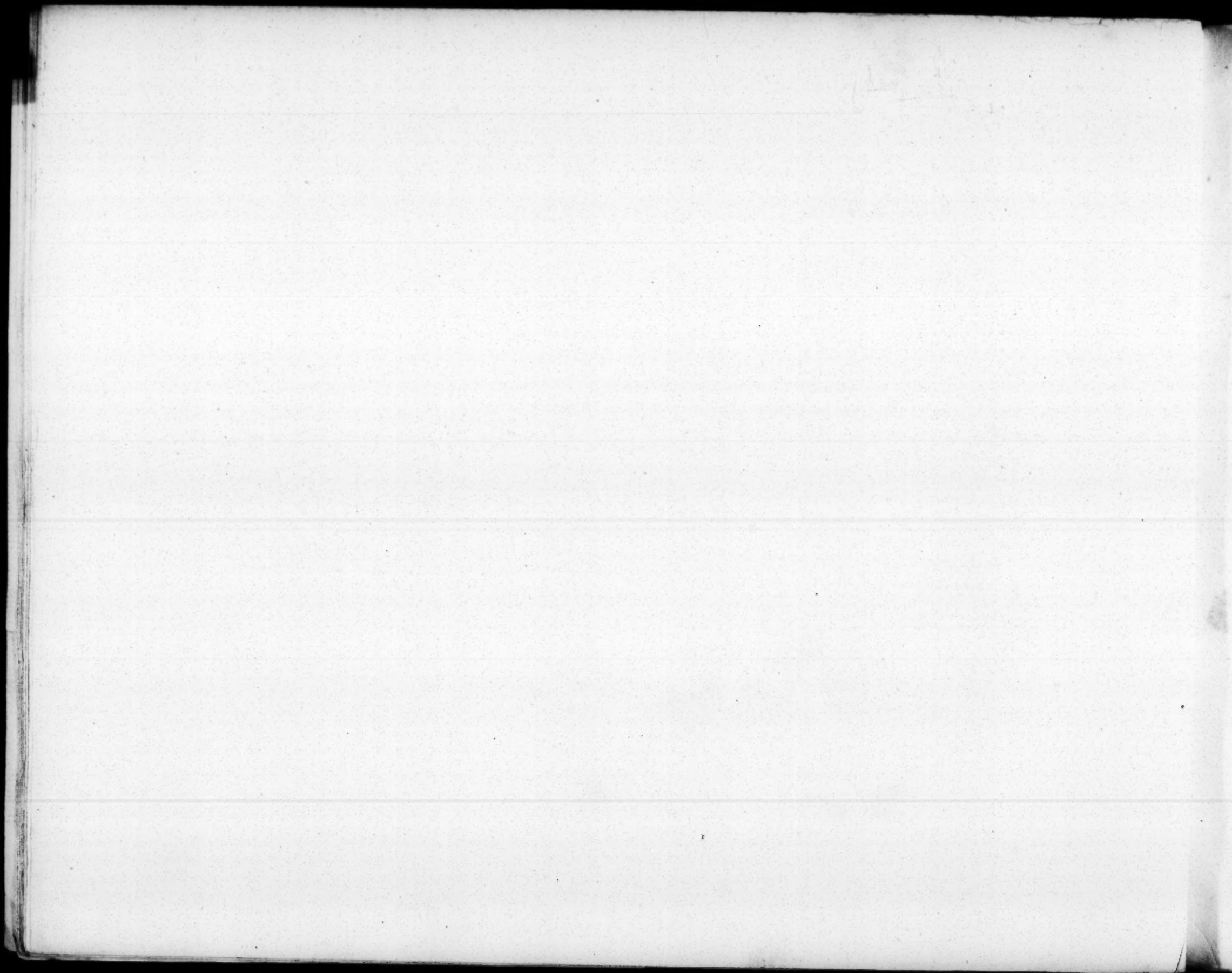
Published at the Art Directors by W. Murray, Printers, St. Andrew's, Edinburgh.



MELVILLE-CASTLE,

THE Seat of the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, stands, in a low situation, on the northern bank of the North-Esk; near to the village and parish-church of Lasswade; at the distance of about five miles, South-West from Edinburgh;—about three miles, West, from Dalkeith. It enjoys no very extensive prospects; and is not seen from any considerable distance. The adjacent grounds, on both sides of the river, advance boldly almost to the very edge of the stream; then terminating somewhat abruptly, leave on either side, a small extent of low-lying, level mead, between the descent and the bank of the river. The tract of level mead on the northern bank, is the broadest; and here stands MELVILLE-CASTLE. From the higher grounds immediately above, the prospect is sufficiently rich, extensive, and varied. Some fine wood is scattered near the House, and round the Park.

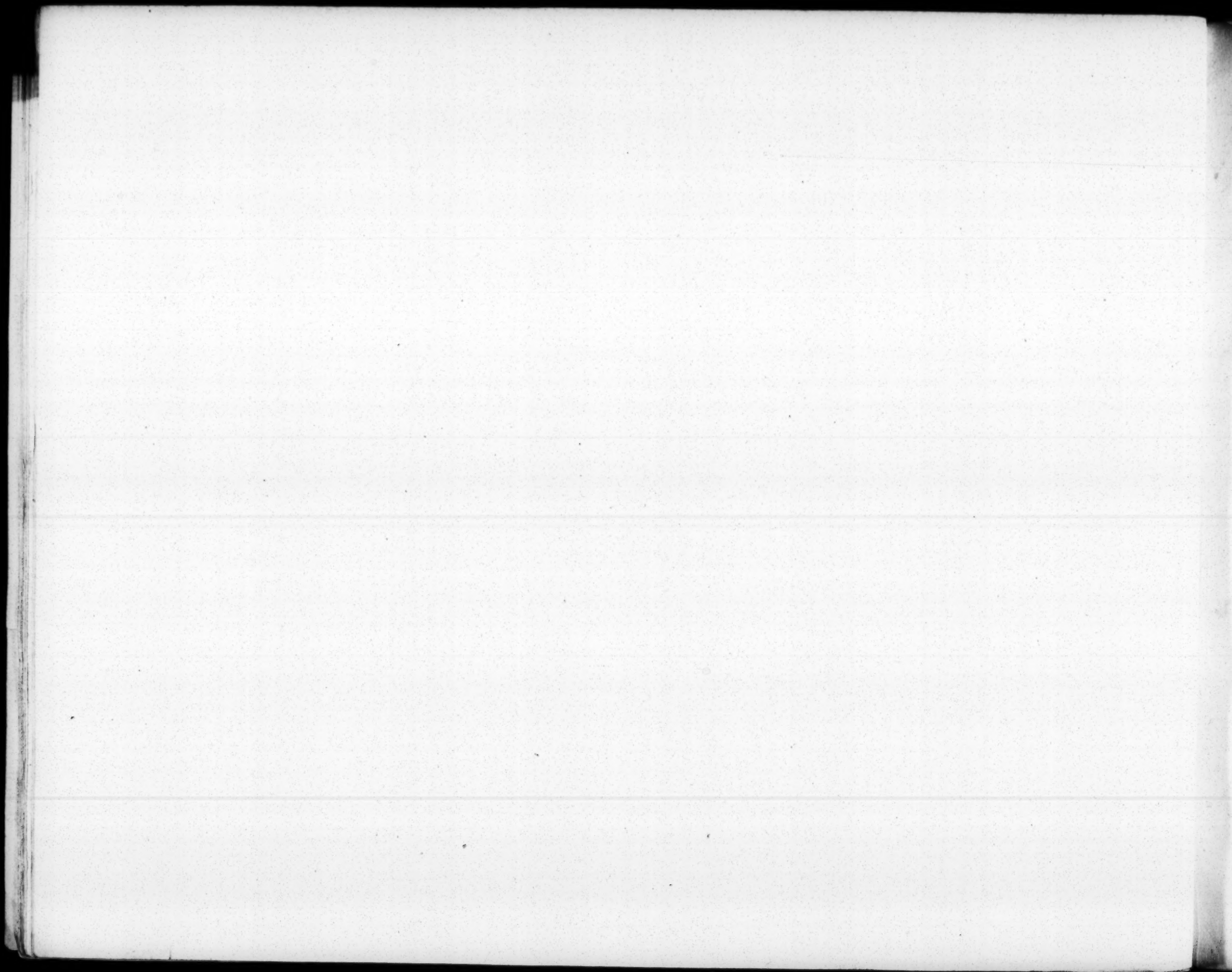
In the present VIEW, MELVILLE-CASTLE is supposed to be seen from the southern bank of the river, on which it stands.—And here the banks on both sides are narrower than either above or below.





MELVILLE CASTLE.
the Seat of the R.^t Hon.^{ble} Henry Dundas.
 PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE. FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT &c.
To whom this plate is most respectfully Dedicated by the Publishers.

Published as the Act Directs by W. Morrison Perth, & H. Kirkwood Edin. March 1797.



DUDDINGSTON-HOUSE,

A SEAT belonging to the Marquis of Abercorn, is situate at the distance of about a mile, South East from Edinburgh. The edifice is spacious and handsome; its site beautiful. *Arthur's Seat*; that rugged and craggy mountain, presenting a remarkable image of desert wildness in the midst of a richly cultivated country, and in the immediate vicinity of a great city; begins to rise, with a gradual elevation, almost close behind Duddingston-House; and as it ascends, exhibits its shoulders and summit, in bold contrast with the softer and ornamented scenery below. On one hand, within sight from this House, appear, the Frith of Forth, the road and harbour of Leith, the rich and populous shores of Fife. To the South and South East, on the other hand, the prospect, still taking in a part of the Frith, extends, at the same time, over a wide tract of country, rich with villas, parks, woods, hamlets, villages, rising slopes, and rivers winding through smiling vales, cultivated fields, and fair-pasture grounds. On the other sides, *Arthur's Seat* narrows and confines the view; yet so as to improve the effects of the wide prospects to the North-East and the South.

The immediate environs of DUDDINGSTON-HOUSE, are beautifully laid out, and ornamented. An extensive lawn spreads out, before the front; is encircled with rising wood; is diversified, on its area, with clumps, and single trees, irregularly scattered over it; is divided and animated by a winding, artificial stream,—conveyed from an adjacent lake,—crowned with a Chinese bridge which seems to increase its magnitude,—and conducted, at length, after many windings, into an artificial lake, the termination of which, being concealed in the wood, gives it, to the imagination, an indefinite extent. The scene is enlivened by cattle feeding on the lawn, and by swans, and other water-fouls sporting in the lakes and the stream. The outline is, every where, the charming, waving line.

In all seasons, these scenes are strikingly picturesque. In Spring, the vivid verdure which shoots forth over them; the gay and busy activity of animal life which they display; give them the power of captivation over the eye and the fancy. Their beauties are expanded, and their colours strengthened, amidst the glow of Summer. Autumn mellows their charms. Even in Winter, the impending mountain, and the expanding bay, preserve to them an interesting grandeur, which would otherwise, be incompatible with the gloom and desolation which then prevail over their softer features.

In this VIEW, DUDDINGTON-HOUSE, and its immediate environs, are represented, as they appear, when viewed from the South.



DUDDINGSTON

HOUSE.

belonging to the
Marquis of
to whom this plate is respectfully Dedicated by the Publisher.



Published as the Act Directs, by W. Murray Perth & R. Kirkwood, Edin. March 1793.

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CRAIGIEHALL-BRIDGE.

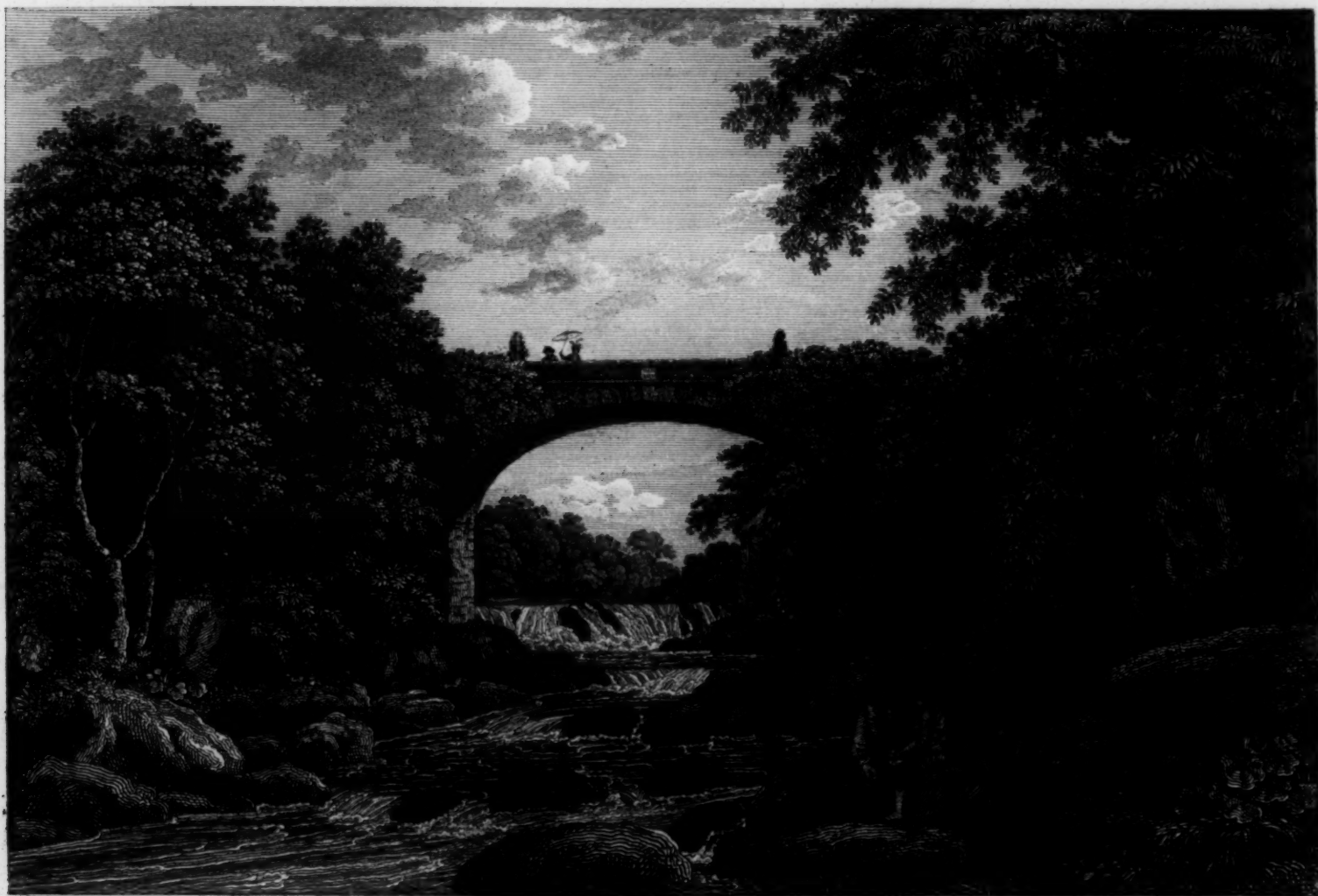
CRAIGIEHALL, the Seat of William Hope Weir, Esq. of Cragiehall, is finely situate, on the bank of the river Amon,—in the parish of Dalmeny,—in the Shire of Linlithgow.

Near to the situation of this House, the channel of the river is contracted, and passes among rocks, and between woody banks. Along these, pleasant walks have been conducted. The Amon, advancing, pours, in a cataract, over the rock. Immediately below the cataract, there has been an ARCH thrown across, the stream, which is partly concealed by underwood, partly displayed, so as to produce a pleasing effect, as is represented in the VIEW.

The proprietor of this noble seat, is a cadet from the House of Hopeton. The Hopes of Hopeton are descended, most probably from a Saxon family of this name, which had been long settled in the south of Scotland, without attaining above the condition of *Ceorles* or *Sokmen*. In the days of King James the Fifth, they began to emerge out of obscurity. In the reign of James the Sixth, Sir Thomas Hope rose to the highest eminence, as a pleader at the Scottish bar. He and his sons, who were numerous, acquired large fortunes in the practice of the Law. His great-grandson, Charles Hope, was created Earl of Hopeton, in the year 1703. His second surviving son was the Honourable Charles Hope Weir of Craigiehall. His son and successor, is the present possessor of this seat, and its domain.

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Engraved by R. Scott from an Original Drawing by A. Carr.

CRAIGIE-HALL BRIDGE.

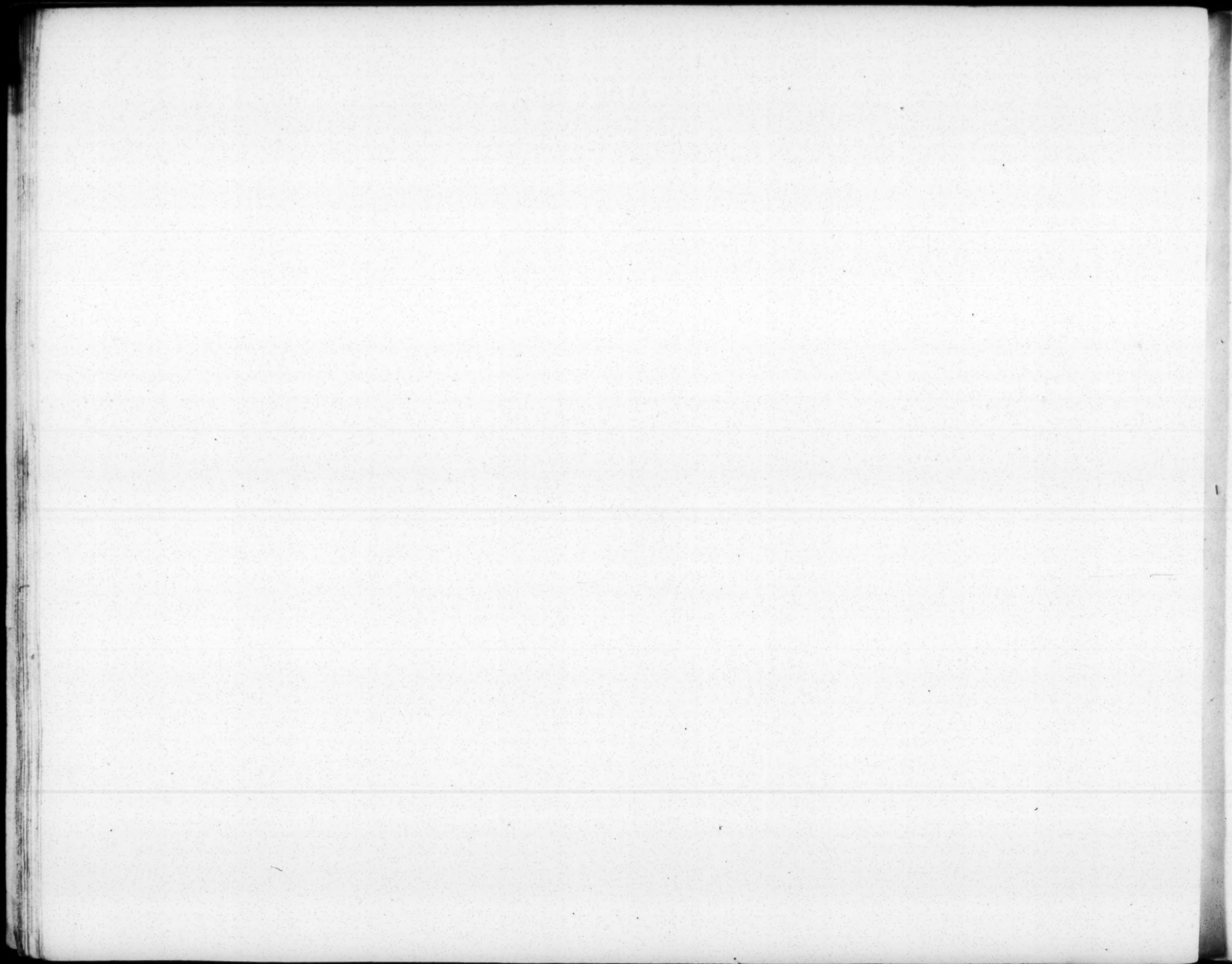
to property of the Hon.^{ble}



William Hope Esq.

to whom this plate is respectfully Dedicated by the Publishers.

Published as the Act Directs, by W. Morrison Perth & R. Kirkwood Edinb. Decr. 1790.



NEWBATTLE-HOUSE;

A SEAT belonging to the Marquis of Lothian; stands on the northern bank of the South-Esk; about seven miles south from Edinburgh; about one mile, between west and south-west from Dalkeith.

In the year 1140, an abbey for a community of Cistercian monks, was founded here, by King David the First. They continued in this seat, till the æra of the Reformation. This community being then dissolved, and their possessions alienated; the abbey of Newbattle and its circumjacent domain, were, in consequence of this event, acquired by the Noble Family, to which they now belong.

Several vestiges of the buildings inhabited by the ancient ecclesiastical possessors, are still to be seen here. But, the house represented in the VIEW, has been built, since the abbey was secularized. It is stately and spacious; and, seen, at the distance, and from the point of aspect, implied in this representation, is an agreeable and impressive object, amidst the rich scenery that lies around it.

It is situate within a park. Before it, on the bank of the river, opens a verdant lawn, here and there, encroached upon, by straggling trees, and bounded by thicker wood. Close by the park-wall stands the church of Newbattle, with a small village which has arisen beside it. The town of Dalkeith is within sight. And by ascending an eminence, on either side, a prospect may be obtained of the city of Edinburgh, and all its rich and populous environs.

In the park, are some trees singularly remarkable for girth and height. These are chiefly ashes, elms, and chestnut-trees. One tall ash measures more than an hundred and twenty feet, in height. There are several others rising to within a few feet of the same degree of loftiness. Others, distinguished by their thickness, measure from fifteen to
four

four and twenty feet in girth. It is probable, that these and others, which although somewhat inferior, are not unworthy of standing beside them, may have been planted by the ancient clerical, possessors of Newbattle.

It is difficult to contemplate any of the seats of the ancient, regular or secular Clergy; whose power was established in this country, during the darker ages; without reflecting on the services which they performed, towards improving the face of the land, and teaching its inhabitants to cultivate it. They first taught our forefathers, to construct houses for comfortable interior accommodation; and not merely for shelter from the storm, or protection against an hostile assault. By them, were the most ancient breeds of almost all our tame cattle, introduced into Scotland. To them, we owe our fruit-trees, and even most of our timber-trees that are not indigenous. They first sowed wheat, barley, and oats, in these regions. They first inclosed gardens, and cultivated pot-herbs.



NEW BATTLE HOUSE.

Engraved by R. Scott from an Original Drawing by A. Gair.

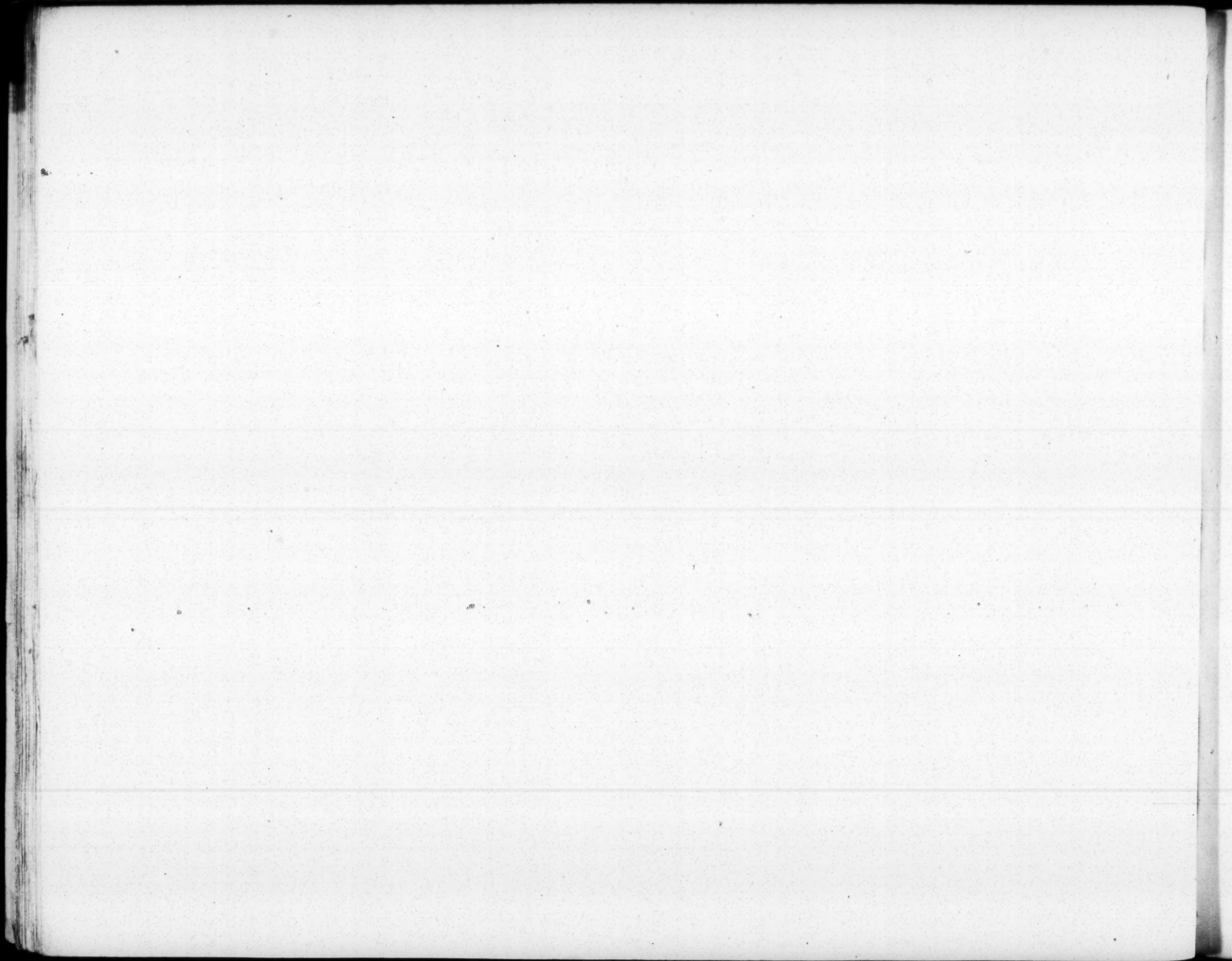
the property of the Most Noble



the Marquis of Lothian

to whom this plate is respectfully Dedicated by the Publishers.

Published at the Art Directors by W. Morrison Perth, & R. Kirkwood Edin. Decr. 1795.

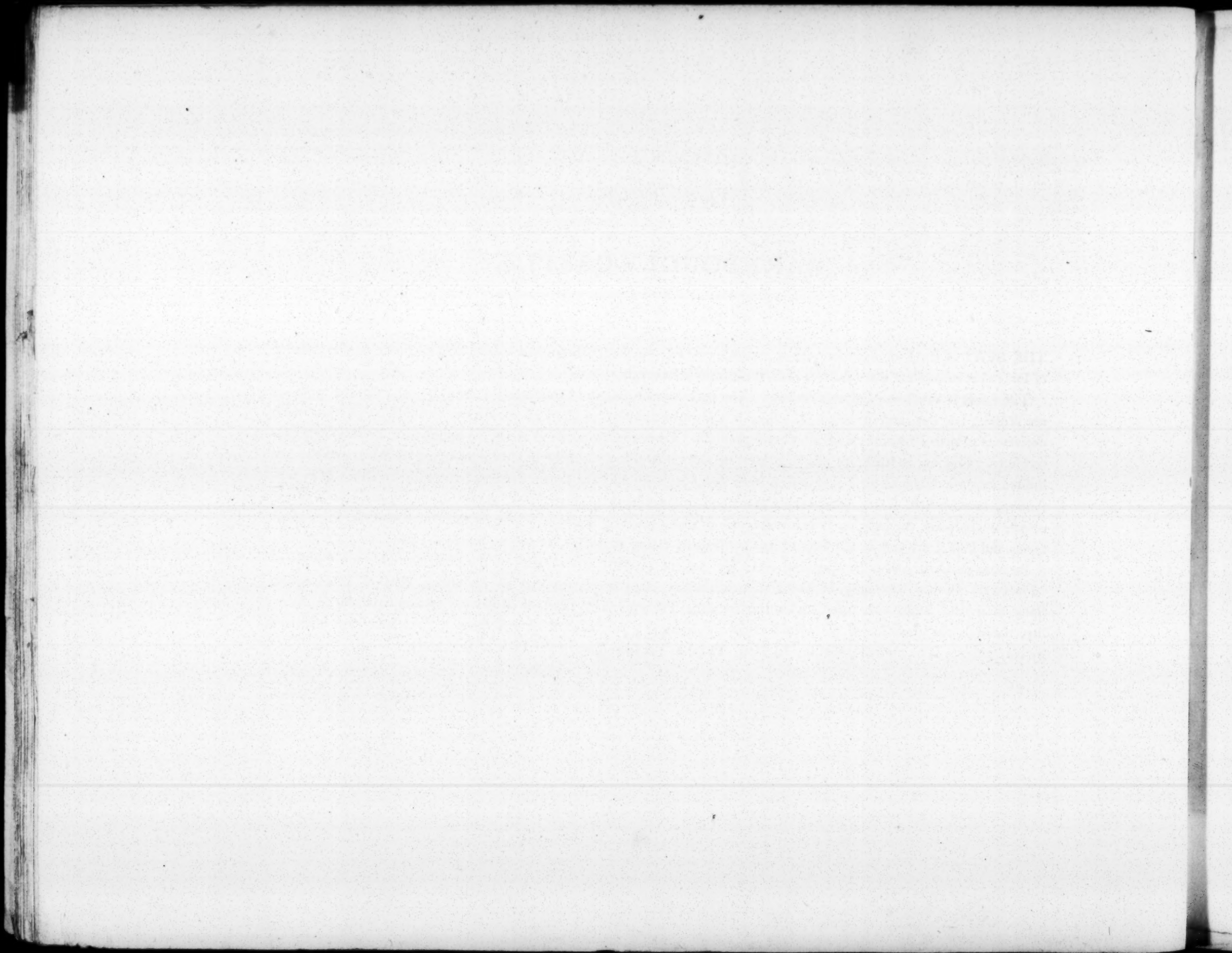


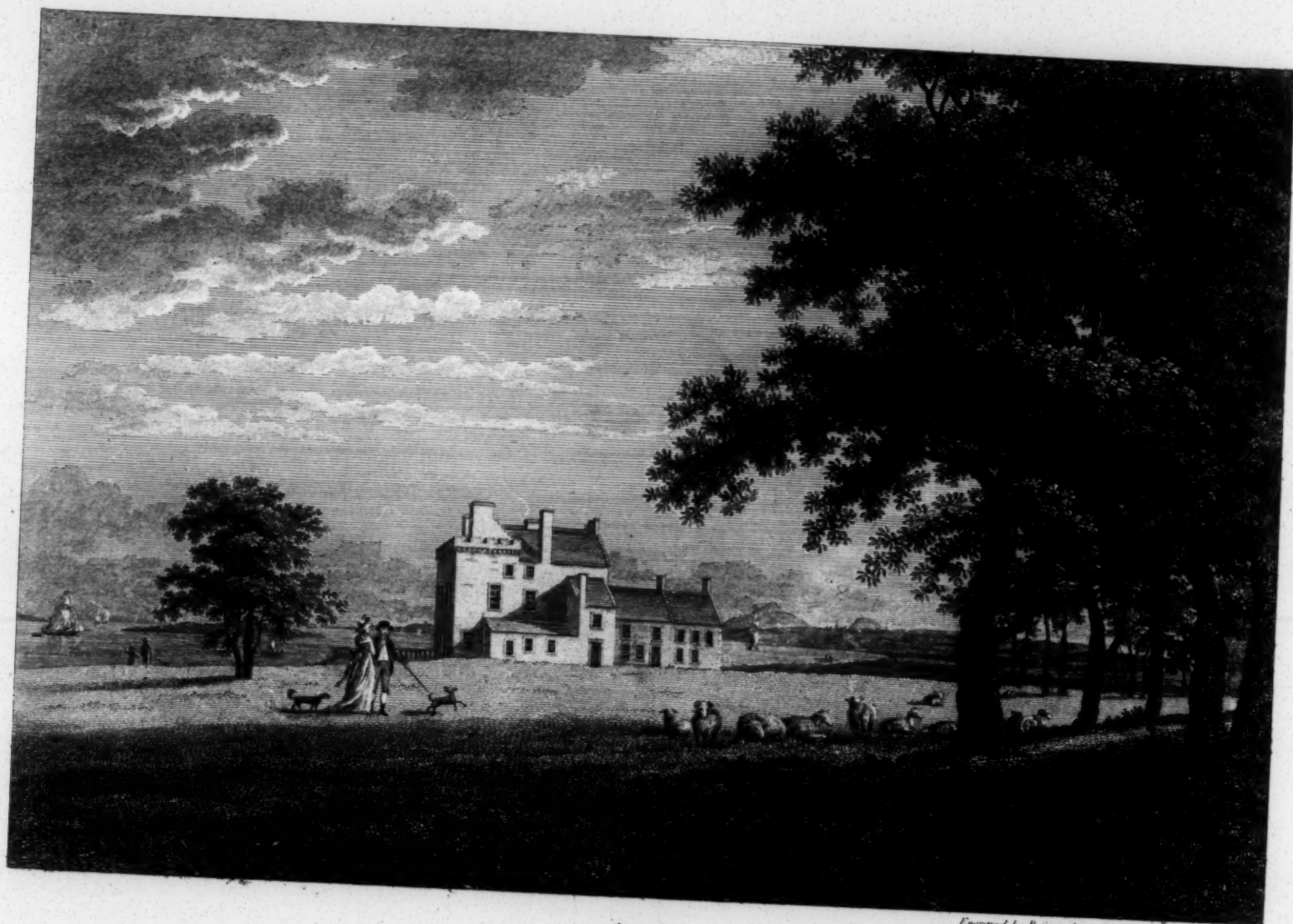
BARNBOUGLE-CASTLE,

THE SEAT of the Earl of Roseberry, is beautifully situate on the southern shore of the frith of Forth, at the distance of somewhat more than three miles North-West from Edinburgh.

The house is handsome and commodious. The park is beautiful, and considerably extensive. The adjacent grounds are skilfully laid out, and ornamented. But, it is from its situation in a sort of nook upon the frith, that this house derives its principal advantages of aspect and prospect. From certain points of view, its appearance is strikingly picturesque. Nothing in landscape can be nobler, or more interesting, than the gradual opening of the frith, into the unlimited expanse of the Ocean; as it is seen from Barnbogle-House; the shores winding beautifully on either side; presenting, here broken, scarry cliffs,—there green and cultured banks; there towns, groves of masts, and those varied objects which mark the busy, crowded intercourse of men, catching the eye; while, on the liquid expanse, ships of all forms and bulks, are continually seen to pass and repass, riding at anchor, or tossing before the wind.

Barnbogle-Castle, with its domains, were the ancient property of a branch of the illustrious Norman Family of Mowbray. In the beginning of the sixteenth century, they were acquired by Hamilton, Earl of Haddington. Soon after the Restoration of Charles the Second, Primrose First Earl of Roseberry; who attained to Nobility, through the gradation of *Juridical* services and honours; purchased these possessions. They have been inherited by his Family. The present possessor, is, Neil, Third in the succession of the Earls of Roseberry.





Engraved by R. Cook from an Original Drawing by A. Jones.

BARN BOUGLE

CASTLE.

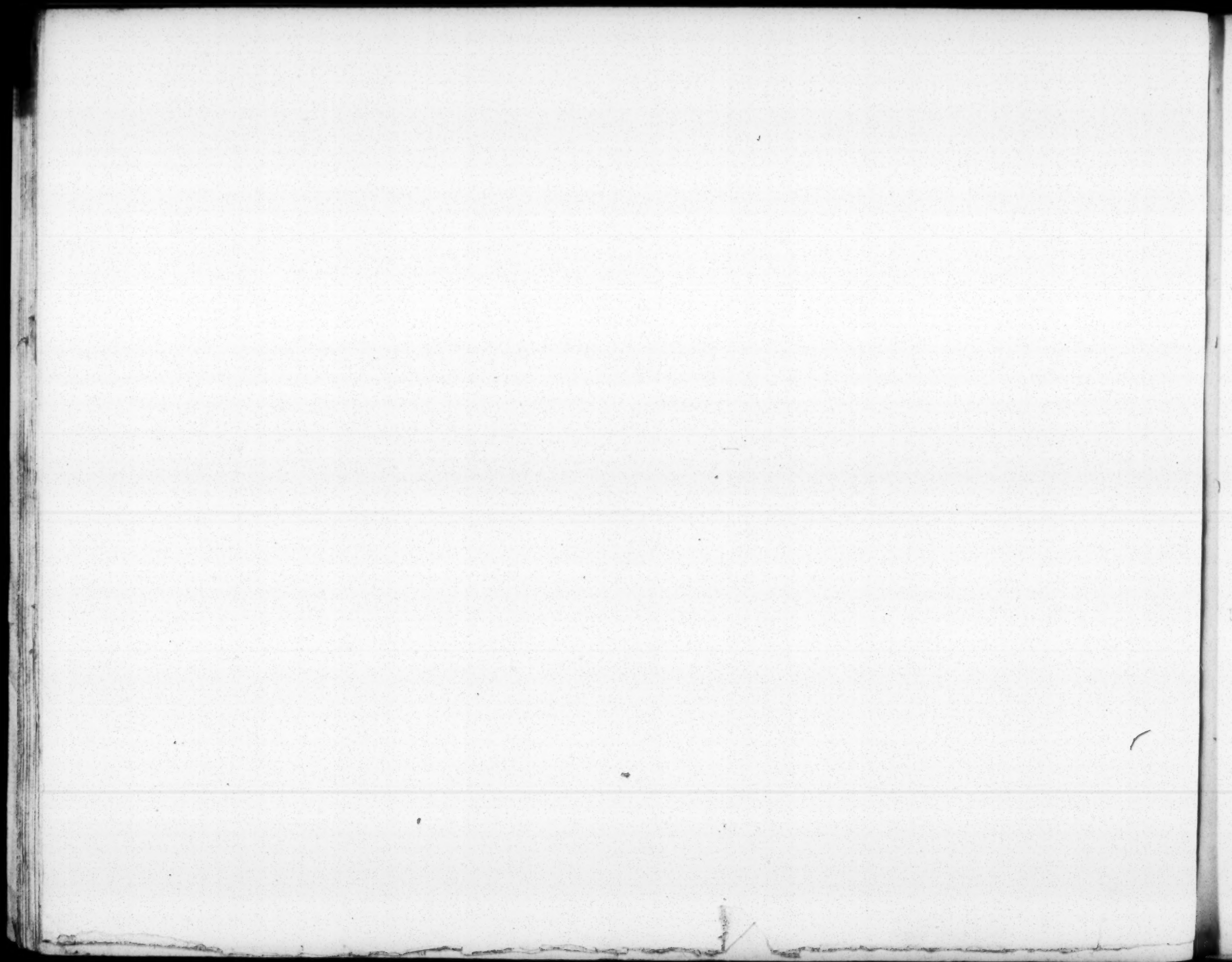
the Seat of the



Earl of Roscherry.

to whom this Plate is respectfully Dedicated by the Publishers.

Published as the Act Directs, by W. Mearns Perth, & R. Kirkwood Edin' Decr 1793.



PRESTON HALL,

THE newly built seat of Colonel Callander of Crichton; is beautifully situate on the southern bank of the Tyne; at the distance of nine miles south from Edinburgh; about seven miles north-west from Haddington.

It is one of the most elegant and splendid mansion-houses in this country. It consists of a main edifice and two wings; containing a breakfasting-room, a dining-room, a drawing-room, with a suitable number of bed-rooms, and other requisite apartments, all finished within, and furnished, in a style uncommonly sumptuous. This spacious house stands, fronting the south-west. Around it, lies a large extent of ornamented grounds: and the general cultivation of the circumjacent country, is such as to give the fore-ground of the landscape, on all hands, the effect of a connected range of ornamented scenery,—to a much greater distance, than the limits of the domain belonging to this House. At a due distance, within the park, stand stately and commodious office-houses. The gardens lie on a different side, likewise within the park.

It would not be easy to find, within the island, a situation more agreeable for the residence of a man of fortune, than the district in which this noble mansion-house is erected. The country is, for a number of miles, on all quarters, enriched by cultivation, and decorated by taste. One river after another, pouring from west to east, intersects it into so many interesting vales, and slowly swelling ridges. Villas, farm-houses, cottages, towns, and hamlets, are plentifully scattered over it. It is opened by roads, to the mutual intercourse of its inhabitants. Market-towns are sufficiently near, to afford a ready supply of almost all the necessaries and conveniencies of life. The vicinity of the Scottish Capital

tal renders the polished, crowded society of a great city, and its varied amusements, easily accessible. The prospect of the bay, on one side, and of rugged hills frowning at a distance, on other quarters, makes the whole scenery peculiarly interesting, by the agreeable effects of contrast.

These scenes exhibit remains, which shew them to have been, even anciently, inhabited by a larger proportion of the Old Scottish Barons, than most other parts of the country, which were not of wider extent. The castles of Crichton and Borthwick, seen from one another, are within sight, or nearly within sight of Prestonhall. Ascending upwards, or proceeding downwards, along the banks of the river; or advancing, whether southward or northward, across the country; you perceive numerous vestiges of old edifices, civil and ecclesiastical, which fully bespeak the ancient state of this tract of country to have been more than ordinarily populous.



Engraved by R. Scott from an Original Drawing by A. Carter.

PRESTON

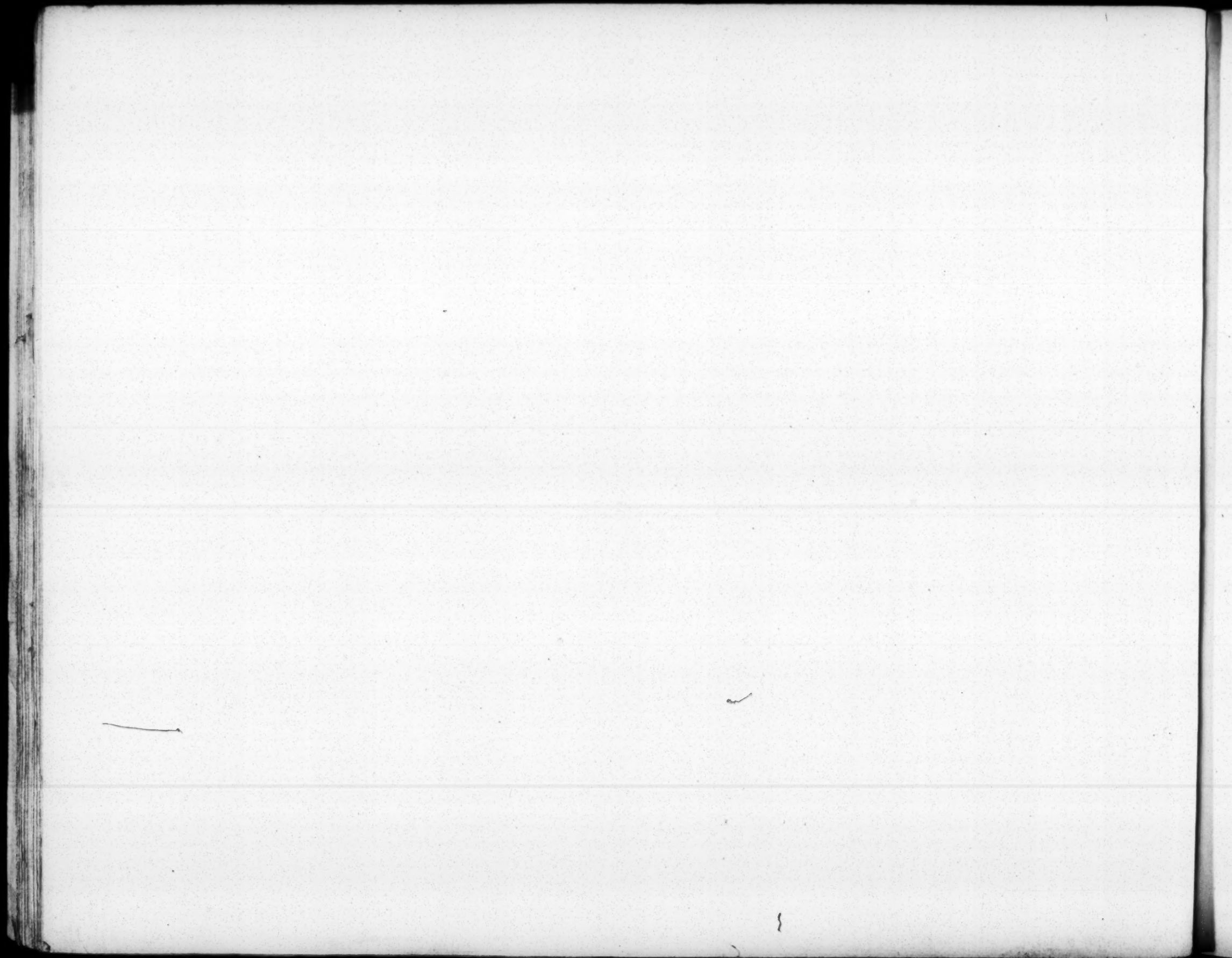
HALL.

the Seat of Colonel

Callander of Crichton.

to whom this place is respectfully Dedicated by the Publishers.

Published as the Act Directs, by W. Morrison Petrie, & R. Kirkwood Edinb. Decr 1795.



PENNYCUICK HOUSE;

THE SEAT OF SIR JOHN CLERK, BART. OF PENNYCUICK.

THE features of landscapes, are referred by the masters in the enchanting art of *English gardening*, to three great distinctions of character; the *sublime*, the *beautiful*, and the *picturesque*. The precipice; the cataract; the cloud-capped mountain; the dark, gigantic, impermeable, and seemingly unmeasurable forest; the boundless ocean tempest by the winds; and whatever other visible objects may serve to suggest to the mind, *the idea of the exertion of extraordinary power*; communicate to the landscapes into which any of them enters, as a principal object, the character of grandeur or SUBLIMITY.

Whatever visible scenery, gratifies the eye with such a reflection or refraction of light, as may agreeably stimulate its optic nerves; or offers itself, as an object of any sort of sensual enjoyment that is not gross or indelicate; or excites, in consequence of habitual association, the remembrance of cheerful, beneficent, joy-giving, or attractive, qualities and actions of men and other animated beings; or recommends itself by an *undeformed* fitness for some useful end; or displays those forms, colours, attitudes, and arrangement of parts, which education and the taste of the country, and the age to which he belongs, have taught the beholder to admire, as beauty: Whatever object in visible scenery, exhibits itself to observation, with all, or with any of these qualities, or circumstances, is therefore characterised as BEAUTIFUL. Green, blue, orange, and other colours which are vivid, yet not glaring; all the diversities of the circle and the waving line, around which the eye may wander, without meeting interruption; all those mingled modifications of light and shade, which the sun seems to shed over the earth, when he shines with the rising or the declining splendour of morn or even, or when soft, fleecy clouds moderate his meridian blaze; the swelling lawn, the expanding lake, the winding, purling brook, the fair springing plantation, the neat, convenient villa; the lamb, the sheep, the horse in his native aspect, and almost all our fowls, wild or tame; above all, the angel-form of lovely woman; are objects of *Beauty*.

The PICTURESQUE holds a middle rank between the *Beautiful* and the *Sublime*. It is that modification of mingled beauty and sublimity, which produces the best effect in a picture. It represents the *Sublime*, with a considerable diminution of the inimitable

inimitable wildness, and awful majesty of nature. It deepens the colours, and heightens the features of *Beauty*. It employs, at times, lights excessively strong, and gloomy masses of shade. It aims at a force of contrast, and a breathing energy of expression, beyond what nature can display. It alters the aspect of beauty to a sort of mellowed harshness. It delights to exhibit to the human eye, those material forms, which, by the ties of association, are enabled to induce upon the mind, a pensive melancholy, and to kindle the soul to the fervour of poetic enthusiasm. The abruptly rising ridge; the wooded *glynns*; the ragged, decaying oak, or the beech *raising its fantastic roots on high*; the moon gently *sprinkling* her silver light on some nodding grove, or ruined tower; the hamlets, the implements, the cattle, the operations of rustic labour; the peasant himself going out, vigorous, to his daily toil, or returning, weary, homewards, to refreshment and rest; all these, and a thousand other objects, distinguished by a similar cast of expression, have obtained, in the estimation of taste, the character of PICTURESQUE.

Nature exhibits the *Picturesque*, the *Beautiful*, and the *Sublime*, scattered over her bosom, with boundless profusion, and varied in their combinations with endless diversity. In the works of man, *these* can seldom be created, or entirely transformed, in spite of natural circumstances; and taste for beauty, sublimity, or picturesque expression, must ever be postponed to immediate fitness for the uses of life. One situation commands prospects of wild sublimity; another is amidst environs of soft beauty; a third is grouped with a series of picturesque objects. Whatever the situation of any *mansion-house*, accessibility, healthfulness, suitable expence, proper accommodation in house, office-houses, kitchen-garden and orchard, water, air, and shelter, pasture-grounds, and corn-fields; ought to be consulted in the plan upon which the house is built, and the grounds about it are laid out; in preference to every suggestion of taste, and to all considerations of ornament. However omnipotent the professor of the art of ornamental gardening may fancy himself to be, he is rarely able to transform the grand features of any landscape; but must confine his endeavours, to correct its minuter deformities, to adorn its secondary beauties, and at the utmost, to create new scenes, of which the outline, and the tone of expression, shall still depend upon the first state and aspect of the ground upon which they have been called forth.

These observations have been suggested by viewing PENNYCUICK HOUSE, and perambulating the ornamented grounds around it. It is situate at the distance of about nine miles, between west and south-west from Edinburgh; on the northern bank of the North Esk; amidst a tract of ground, of which the surface is naturally broken, with considerable irregularity, into rising knolls, level meads, retiring dells, abrupt *glynns*, and broad swelling ridges. The house is spacious and elegant in its architecture.

ecture. Its sculptured ornaments are light and elegant. Its principal front looks towards the north-east : The access to it, is by a winding road which approaches, nearly in this same direction. The principal rooms within, are large, in a due proportion to the size of the edifice ; skilfully proportioned, in their relative height, breadth, and length ; cheerfully lighted ; handsomely furnished ; and so arranged, as to compose a very elegant suite. In *that one*, which is well known by the denomination of *Ossian's Hall* ; the cieling has been nobly adorned by the pencil of *Runciman*, with several pieces of history-painting, representing scenes from the poems ascribed to Ossian, the son of Fingal. In the midst, the venerable, *fabled* bard, of the figure of a hero, and with the countenance, and in the attitude of poetical inspiration, strikes his harp, in unison with his song. Near him stand, not the children of Fingal ; for, the blind and aged Ossian was the last of his race ; but kindred Scots, fondly venerating the sage, the hero, and the bard : They *drink* his strains with *ravished ears* ; and their features seem to glow, at once with enthusiastic admiration of the poet's power, and with deeply impassioned sympathy in the fortunes of the persons whom he celebrates. Around this principal piece, are others, somewhat smaller in their dimensions ; but not at all less interesting ; and still displaying the powers of *Runciman's* pencil, and of *Caledonian* poesy. But the paintings, the pieces of sculpture, the marble tables, the handsome stair-cases, and all that is stately, elegant, or commodious, in the structure, the interior disposition of the apartments, and the furniture and decorations of PENNYCUICK HOUSE, would require, to their adequate description, a minuteness and amplitude of detail, incompatible with the design of the *letter-press* which accompanies *these* VIEWS.

At a due distance, on one hand, is a *square* of *office-houses*. An excellent *garden* for fruits, flowers, and pot-herbs, is advantageously situate on a deep *bottom* below. Its walls are clad with the ordinary fruit-trees ; it has large hot-houses, in which grapes of several different sorts, and peaches, and nectarines, are abundantly produced. Beds of pot-herbs cover the greater part of the area ; but are intersected by gravel-walks, and skirted by borders of flowers.

The natural character of these grounds is *Picturesque*. When the house which they environ, was first built ; and ornamental plantations were first scattered over them ; they must have assumed somewhat of the expression of softened *Beauty*. But, the free, unchecked, unmutated growth of the single trees, clumps, belts, groves, and all the other vegetative decorations with which they are adorned ; and the regained ascendancy of the *Genius Loci*, have, since that time, fully restored their original character. The *Picturesque* forms, at present, in a very conspicuous degree, the character of the place and its environs. To this general effect, a *Gothic* tower, a *Rustic* temple, other ornaments of fanciful architecture, and some fine

pieces

pieces of water, all remarkably conspire. On one side appear in the widening prospect, the range of the *Pentland* heights : On the other, the view is bounded by the hills of *Tweeddale*. Immediately westward lies, what was once an extensive morass, but has been gradually subdued by cultivation, and covered with corn-fields, plantations, and beautiful villas. Towards the north-east, the same morass, improved, in the same manner by cultivation, is seen to extend towards the Frith of Forth ; where Edinburgh, and the cliffs around it, are faintly perceived to advance, as it were, out of the bay. In the near vicinity of PENNYCUICK HOUSE, lies the village of the same name ; and the banks of the Esk, as it passes on, are equally remarkable for the rich seats of population and industry which have been formed upon them, and for the enchanting natural, or ornamented scenes, which they every where display.



PENNYCUICK

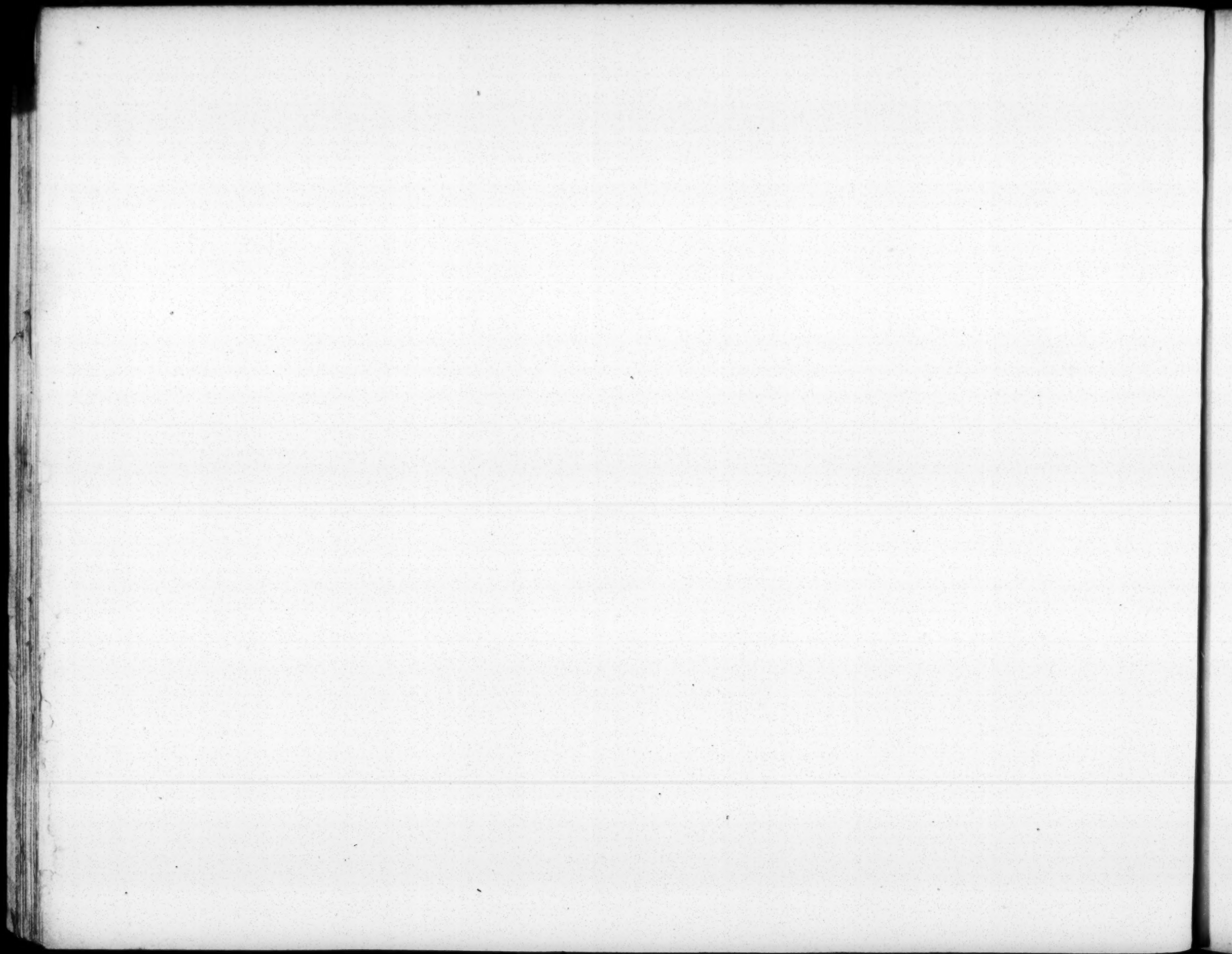
HOUSE,

The Seat of Sir



John Clerk Bart.

Published by Frazar and Clerk Edin. 1796.



HOPETOUN HOUSE,

THE SEAT OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF HOPETOUN.

IS situate, on the southern bank of the FORTH, at the distance of about twelve miles north-west from EDINBURGH, and within three miles of the burgh of *Queensferry*.

It is a stately and magnificent mansion; fronting the south; and accommodated with stables and other office-houses, uncommonly sumptuous and superb.

The bank upon which it stands, rising boldly over the Frith below, spreads into an extensive terrace; the surface of which is very gently varied by some low and unequal swells. Beyond this terraced bank, the level of the ground partially subsides; and then rises with a considerable, but not disagreeably abrupt declivity, so as to protect and shelter the whole scene below.

In the decoration of this scene, much labour and expence have been apparently lavished, with taste and skill uncommonly happy. A beautiful lawn expands immediately around the house. A spacious kitchen-garden fills the subsiding bottom. On the skirts of the lawn, wood is beautifully disposed; presenting, first, picturesque single trees; then thickening gradually into one surrounding mass of verdant shade; which, however, opens here and there, at proper points of view, to unveil to the eye distant prospects, which invite and charm it, with all the power of the fairest landscapes, selected and embellished by the genius of design, and the most exquisite touches of the hand of painting. Path-ways are romantically conducted through the encircling woods; and rustic seats are dispersed, here and there, under the trees; suggesting to imagination, the bewitching, rural simplicity, the love, the innocence, the unalloying joys, which have been attributed to the *Arcadian* scenery of the pastoral poets. A stately wall encompasses and bounds the whole scene. It is accessible by a spacious road ascending from the interior shore of the Frith, and by another passage on the western side of its *circumference*.

But

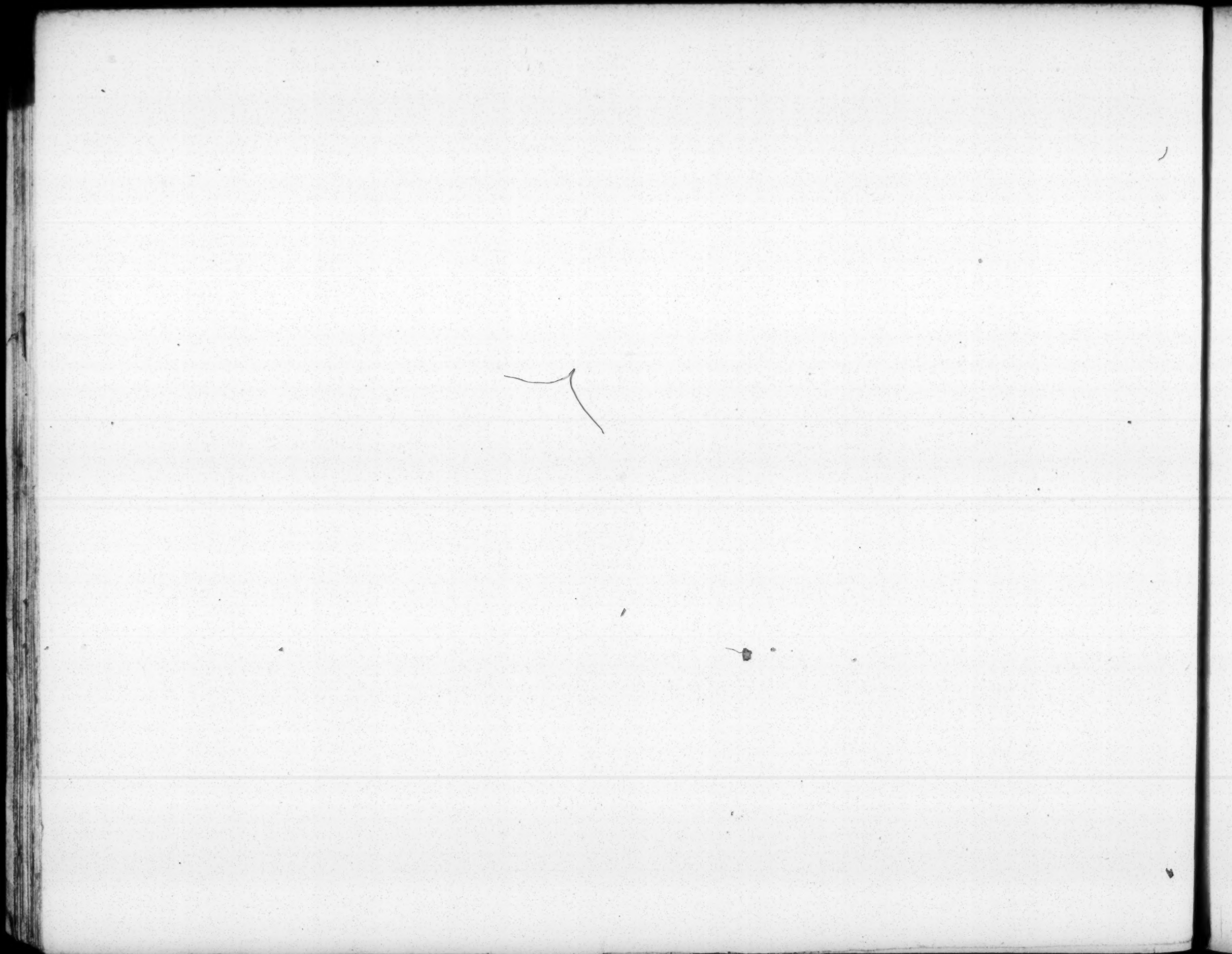
But, the advantages of prospect which HOPETOUN HOUSE and its circumjacent ornamented grounds enjoy, are such as to exceed every beauty that they have acquired from interior decoration. Towards the north-west extremity, on the very verge of the Frith, there is a point of view, from which the eye commands the whole turnings and windings of the FORTH, with the expanse of the Frith, from *Stirling*, to the isle of *May* and *North Berwick Law*. The majestic course of the river; the widening Frith; the expansion of the Bay; the islets scattered amid the waters; the vessels of every form, gliding to and fro upon the surface; the towns and harbours appearing around the coast; the wide tract extending northward beyond the stream, and bounded only by *Ben Lomond*, and by the *Ochil* and *Grampian-Hills*; present all together, a scene of land and water; of the beauties and wonders of Nature, and the works of Art; such a wide range of still scenery, and that so much animated by the majestic course of the stream, and by the bustle of men and other animals; such an endless diversity, and such unceasing vicissitudes of all the effects of light and shade; so many objects interesting, naturally, and by themselves, and such a multitude of others fitted to engage the mind by every charm of association; such a combination of the sublime, the beautiful, and the picturesque; that it is probably unequalled in BRITAIN; and is most certainly without a parallel in SCOTLAND. It astonishes the mind at a first prospect; and fixes it in a sort of awful admiration and delight, amid which all those mingled emotions are recalled up, which beauty or sublimity is capable to excite. Many other enchanting prospects are to be enjoyed from other points of view within these grounds.

This View of HOPETOUN HOUSE is taken from the East.



HOPETOON HOUSE
the Seat of the R. Hon^{ble}  *the Earl of Hopetoun*

Engraved by Fraser and Clark Edin^{burgh} 1796.



HERMITAGE OF BRAID.

THIS romantic habitation is the seat of Mr GORDON of Braid. It lies at the distance of nearly two miles south, or rather south-west from Edinburgh. It is buried in a narrow vale, between two ranges of low and irregular hills. It is embosomed deep in wood; and the small stream of BRAID-BURN dividing the vale in which it stands, almost washes its foundations on the southern side. A stone wall, inclosing the house, the garden, and the trees and underwood by which they are surrounded, separates them from the circumjacent fields.

For the sake of water, or shelter, or sequestered privacy, the choice of several much happier situations, in the immediate vicinity, appears to have been slighted, when this house was built. On the beautiful sloping field which extends close behind it, on the northern side, a mansion-house might be very happily situated. Even on the heights rising opposite, on the south-west, the situation would have been less unhealthy and gloomy, than in the bottom of the vale. The farm-house, placed on those heights, produces a finely picturesque effect in the landscape.

It is curious to remark the vicissitudes of taste, in respect to the situation of houses. The first edifices of any considerable stability, which were erected in our country, were *castles* and *monasteries*. For the site of a *castle*, a place was always chosen, which might be naturally as little accessible as possible; an islet in a lake; or the summit of some insulated hill. The command of beautiful prospects was not sought; nor could the country afford such. But an extensive range of view was diligently required, and was generally obtained. The *monasteries* secure, not by military and fortified strength, but by the sanctity of religion; were usually placed in some low and accessible, but sheltered and sequestered situation. The edge of an open field, which might receive and reward cultivation; the bank of some fair flowing stream; some romantic nook sweetly embosomed among hills; appear to have been the situations which the founders of the most ancient monasteries in Scotland, most commonly preferred. Buildings were multiplied in the country; and civil order acquired a degree of new security in the mitigated temper of the people, and in the invigorated efficacy of law. The habitations of gentlemen were no longer built in the strong castellated form; but in a style of building partaking of the strength of the castle, and of the accommodation of the abbey. The dissolution of the religious orders, at the Reformation, and the alienation of their houses, taught the laity to seek the convenience of the monastic buildings; and made it common for a lay-landholder to possess a mansion-house, more like to a convent, than to a castle. The union of the two kingdoms under one king, following shortly after, produced a degree of internal peace and security throughout the island; in consequence of which, fortified abodes became still less and less necessary, at least, to every private gentleman. In the seventeenth century therefore, the fashion of great houses, which prevailed in Scotland, was an edifice turreted, and with something more of the exterior show of a castle; situate rather

ther in a sheltered, than in an elevated situation, and embosomed in wood. In the interval from the middle of the seventeenth to the middle of the eighteenth century, the same style of building, and the same taste in the choice of situations, still prevailed; yet were variously modified by the imitation of Italian, of French, and even of Dutch architecture. But, since the middle of the present century, or perhaps somewhat earlier, the rise and improvement of ENGLISH GARDENING; the secure prosperity of our country; and the progress of architecture, and of the fine arts, which are the most intimately connected with it; have established principles for the choice of situation for buildings, much more rational than any that were before received. Health, convenience, advantages of aspect, and beauty, variety, and extent of prospect, are all studied together. The slowly rising eminence, and the expanding lawn, are carefully preferred. The gloom, and the damp vapours of woods, are removed to a due distance. Objects of convenience are skilfully decorated, and the decorations of taste are brought to submit and reconcile themselves to convenient accommodation. The outline of an wooded park, is, in some measure, preserved: but is hollowed, as it were, within; and is here and there broken, that more important purposes of taste or ornament, may be attained. This country, therefore, exhibits a various assemblage of situations chosen, and of edifices built, upon the principles of the *castle* and the *abbey*; in that *taste* which gradually succeeded *them*, and prevailed from the end of the sixteenth, till towards the latter part of the seventeenth century; in that style modified upon Italian, French, or Dutch practice, which distinguished our attempts at ornament and improvement, from the *Restoration*, nearly to the middle of the present century; and in that more perfect style of architecture and *ornamental gardening*, which have had their origin in this island; and which probably exceed what the rest of Europe can display in the same arts.

THE HERMITAGE OF BRAID is such a sweet, sequestered abode, as an hermit might have sought for his cell; and its situation has been certainly chosen upon those principles of taste, which had their rise in the ancient manners of the country, and among the clergy. *Blackford-hill* rises near it on one side; *Pentland-heights*, overhang it, at a small distance on the other. On the south-west, are *Braid-craigs*, and a tract of open pasture-grounds. The Frith of Forth opens towards the east. North, and north-west, are the City of Edinburgh, and some of the most interesting parts of its ornamented environs.



James Ball

HERMITAGE

OF BRAID

The Seat of H^c



Garden of Braid

Published by Paton and Clark Edin^o 1796



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BELLE VUE.

THE SEAT OF MRS GENERAL SCOTT;

IS situate in the immediate vicinity of Edinburgh; at the distance of about a furlong north-east from Queen's Street; on an eminence which rises gently to an inconsiderable height, behind the village of Broughton.

This house, so advantageously situate, is spacious, elegant, and commodious; worthy of the opulent family to which it belongs, and of the rich and ornamented scenes, on all hands surrounding it. Its immediate environs, are inclosed within an excellent stone-wall, dividing them from the village of Broughton, on the one side; and on the other, from the grounds above Cannonmills; at the eastern end, meeting the highway from Edinburgh to Cannonmills; at the western end, covered without, with wood, and for a certain length, bordered by a foot-path which leads from the east end of Queen's Street, towards Stockbridge. The lawn, thus inclosed, presents a very beautiful surface; sloping, waving, varied; but without abruptness or harshness of features. It is laid out, and ornamented in the best style of English gardening. The fore-ground is open; the gardens are managed so as not to disfigure the aspect of the house: Those objects which however useful, are not easily susceptible of decoration, have been skilfully concealed: The circumference of the whole, is bounded by broad belts of thriving wood which cover the surrounding wall, on its interior side: Nor is the included space, without such ornamental clumps and single trees, as its extent can suitably admit.

But the charming prospects which it commands, contribute more than even any thing else about it, to render the situation of BELLE VUE singularly interesting. The admired Bay of Naples, is said by judges sufficiently unprejudiced, to present hardly a more splendid, or captivating series of scenery, than the Frith of Forth, seen from Edinburgh. All the beauty and grandeur of this prospect, are seen from BELLE VUE, perhaps more advantageously, than from any other point of observation. The Frith is seen, for a great part of its length and gradual expansion, from where the waters of the sea advance up the channel, towards Queensferry, to meet the river-stream; to where it opens into a spacious bay, between the coast of Fife, on the one side, and that of East Lothian, on the other; and onwards to where, at Dunbar and Pittenweem, the land seems, on both sides, to extend its arms with an effort, as it were, to embrace and confine the billowing waves of the sea.

On

On each side the land is seen to exhibit a pleasing contrast to the blue expanse of the waters. The fishing towns and villages are seen, in pleasing frequency, to skirt the beach, all around. The fields and the interior country display an astonishingly rich cultivation. Much of the country is covered with noble or handsome villas, gardens, and ornamented grounds. The level of the surface is varied by slopes and ridges, and here and there more abruptly broken by insulated hills; such as the Lomond Heights, in Fife, and Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Heights, covering Edinburgh, to the east. These scenes are encompassed, on almost all sides, by lofty mountains, dimly seen, as lying at a great distance; but on this very account, conferring an impression of dignity without ruggedness, on the character of the whole. Nor is it merely unanimated scenery, that is here to be perceived. The land, the waters glow with life, animation, and industry. Ships are continually moving to and fro, in the Frith. In the fields, the most interesting of the domesticated animals, are seen at work, or *at feed*. Man and his labours every where enliven the scene. To the north, and the north-east especially, on the *hither* side of the Frith, the harbour, and buildings of Leith, and the ambitious culture and decoration of the intermediate fields, continually suggest to the mind, the most pleasing associated ideas of the busy industry of man, and of the beauty and the happiness which it diffuses around him. With the revolving seasons, the features of these scenes are continually varied: the changing states of the atmosphere, diversifying the lights and shades under which they are seen, also diversify their appearance: Still, however, they are rich and interesting: Their beauty is still dignified, in the fairest seasons, by mingled *traits* of sublimity and grandeur: A deep gloom and the storms of winter cannot altogether veil, or efface, the expression of their softer features. The name of BELLE VUE, with happy propriety, expresses the advantage of prospect, which its situation affords.



BELLE

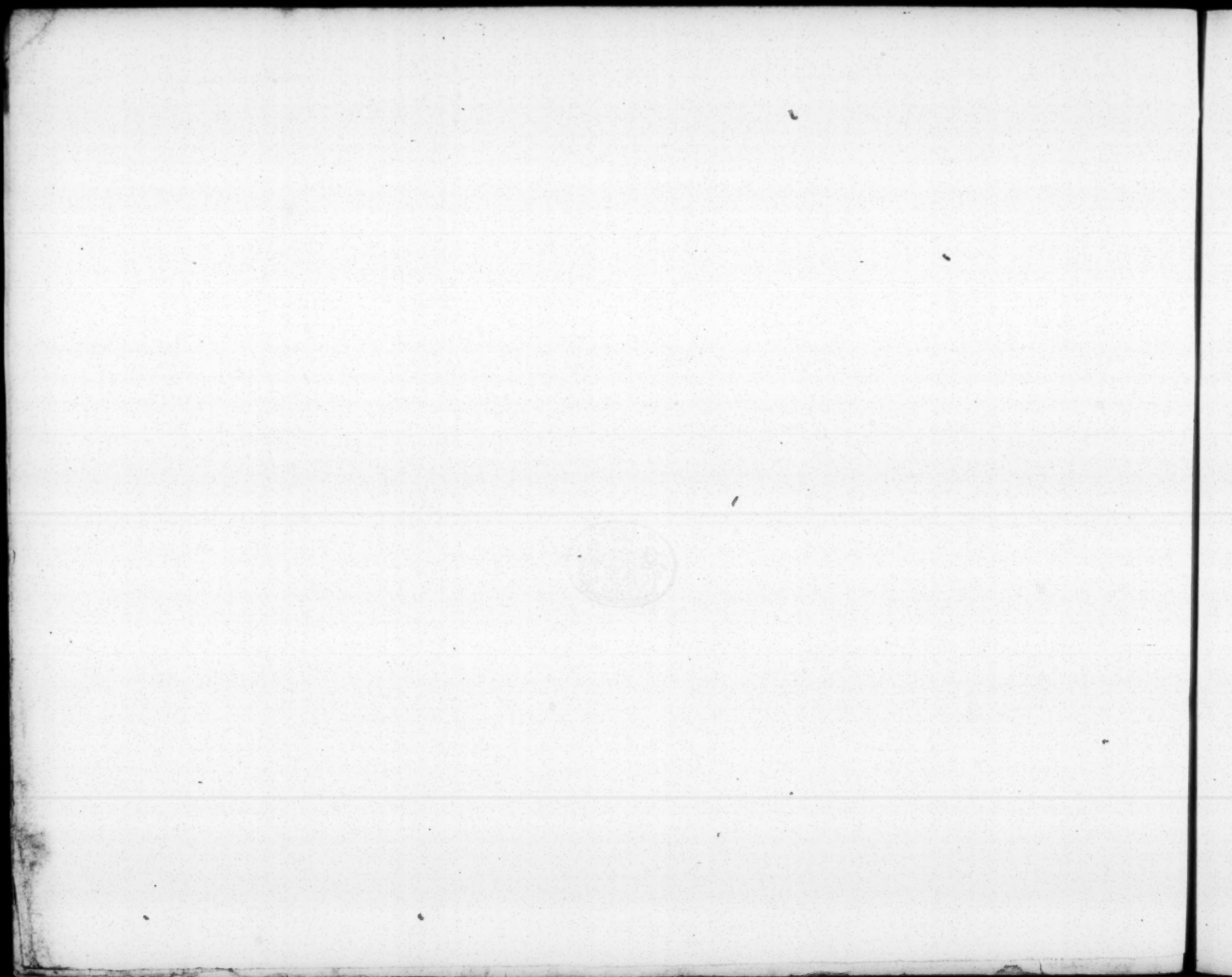
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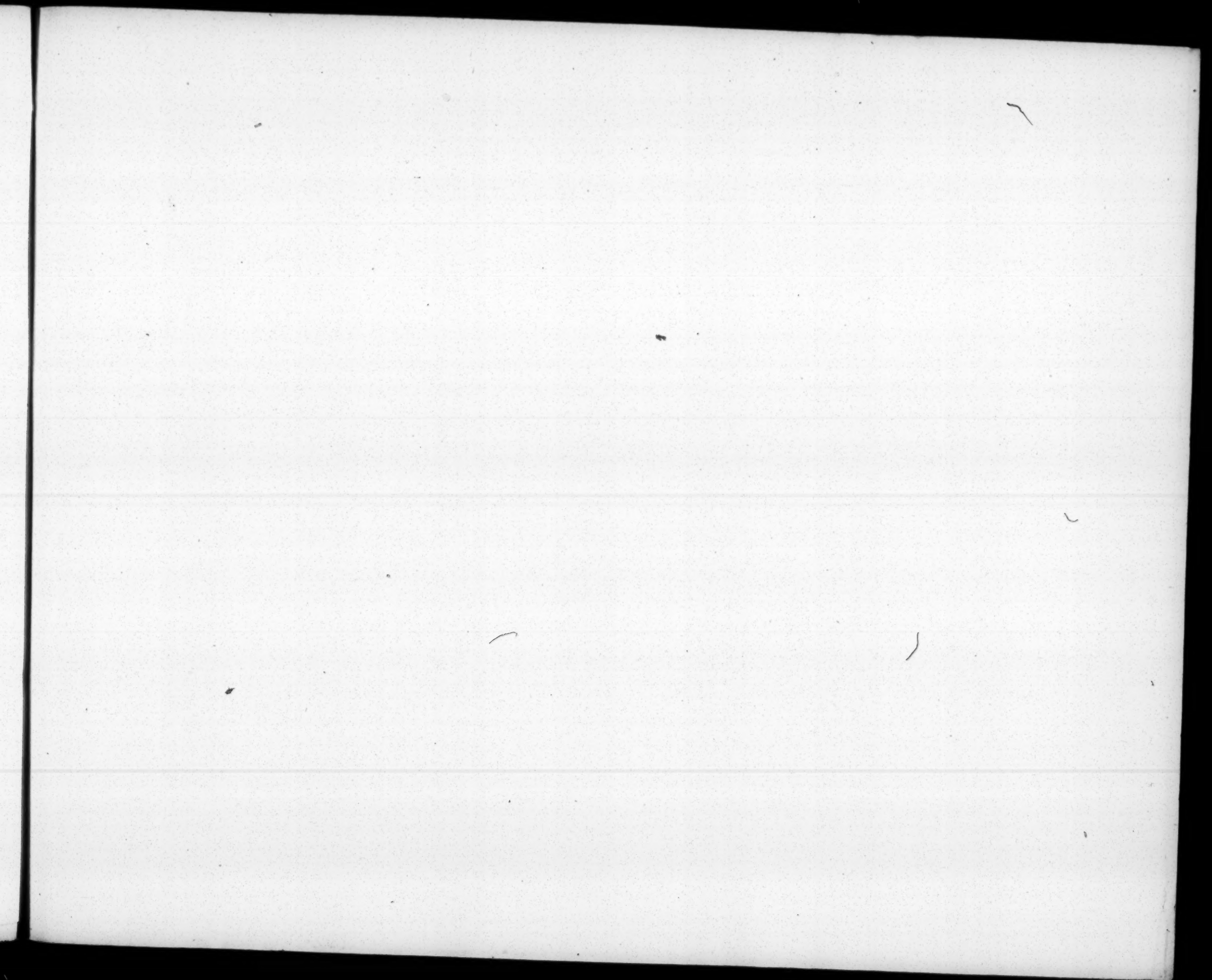
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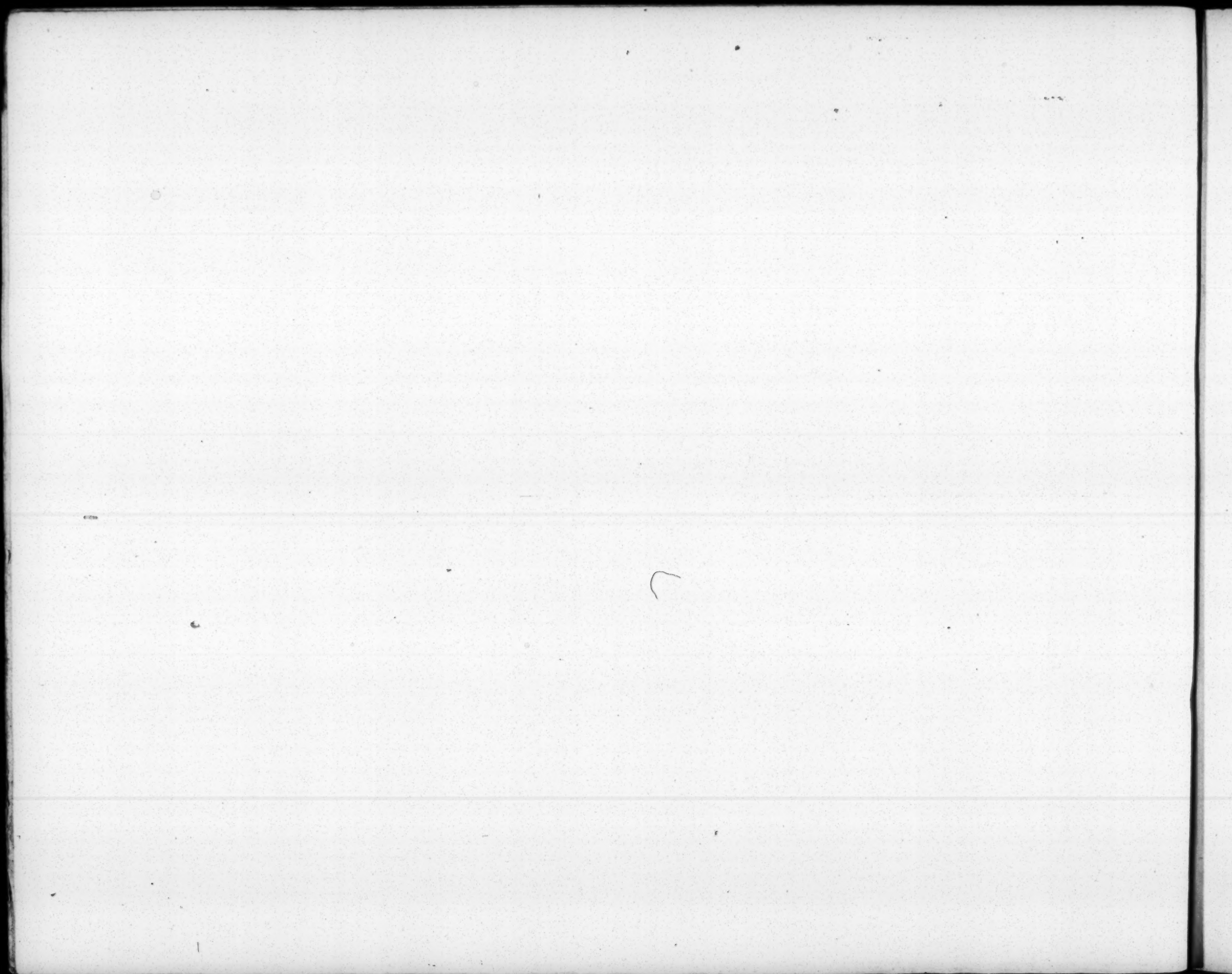


Mr. General Scott

Published by Moore and Clark, Boston, 1796.







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